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INSIDE

NATION

A male stripper show at a nursing home provokes a lawsuit.

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LIFE & STYLE

Not even Archie Andrews is immortal in the world of comics.

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CROWN JEWEL

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Tourists frolic on the powdery white sand beach and swim in the aquamarine waters of Managaha Island, one of CNMI tourism's crown jewels, on Sunday. Gov. Eloy S. Inos recently signed a bill into Public Law 18-42, authorizing the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, in consultation with the Department of Public Lands, to protect, preserve, and maintain public access to Managaha.

AFTER SITTING IDLE FOR 3 YEARS

Marpi public cemetery in use by May

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» **Burial cost could be $250-$300 each**

After sitting idle for three years, the $2.9-million Marpi public cemetery could finally be used starting in May.

This is just an example of projects whose maintenance and operations were not funded or planned for during or immediately after construction, but officials said yesterday the government won't allow the still unused federally funded cemetery to go to waste.

Press secretary Angel Demapan confirmed yesterday that the public cemetery could be used as early as May. Gov. Eloy S. Inos hinted last week that more projects will roll out soon.

"There were lengthy discussions between agencies on the responsibility for operation and how the operations would be funded," Demapan said.

Construction of the Marpi public cem-

See MARPI on Page 4

'Hair strand matches Romero sample'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» **FBI expert: Fibers in car consistent with fibers in leggings used to strangle victim**

A hair strand found inside the car that Joseph A. Crisostomo allegedly drove on the day bartender Emerita Romero went missing on Feb. 5, 2012, matched the hair sample taken from Romero during autopsy, according to a Federal Bureau of Investigation expert yesterday.

Testifying for the CNMI government in the ongoing jury trial of 40-year-old Crisostomo, physical scientist/physical examiner Linda Otterstatter also disclosed that fibers found in the same car were consistent with black cotton fibers in the leggings that was found around Romero's neck.

FBI special agent Haejun Park earlier testified that a black cloth wrapped around the victim's neck was possibly used to strangle her.

Teacher Taj Van Buren, who was then Romero's boyfriend, also took the witness stand yesterday and revealed that prior to Romero's disappearance on Feb. 5, 2012, she texted him that she would ride a taxicab on her way to his house.

Otterstatter, who is a hair and fiber expert, gave a PowerPoint presentation about trace evidence, particu-

See HAIR on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Attorney Janet H. King talks with her client, Joseph A. Crisostomo, who is being escorted by Corrections Lt. Pius Pius Yaroitemal on the way back to the courtroom during a short break on Monday in Superior Court. Crisostomo is on trial for the kidnapping and murder of bartender Emerita Romero in February 2012.

Final tariff for new base rate remains pending. PAGE 2

Disbarred lawyer Atalig slapped with 6-mo. prison term. PAGE 5

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Local

Final tariff for new base rate remains pending

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

More than two months after the approval of a base rate increase for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., nothing has been collected yet to raise the $2.8 million it expects to collect from this rate hike.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a final tariff for the base rate order remains pending up to now. As a result, CUC is incurring a monthly shortage of over $200,000, he said.

"$2.8 million was approved, so each month of delay results in a shortage of $233,000. [And] we still have not obtained approval of the tariff sheets, so the effective date of any rate increase is still unknown," Warren said.

» Delayed implementation of new rate causes CUC $233K monthly shortage

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission approved CUC's petition for a base rate increase on Feb. 5. Since then, CUC has been authorized to increase its electric base rates to produce an additional $2.8 million each year. The tariff sheets, which will be coordinated between CUC and the CPUC hearing examiner, will reflect how the rate changes will be implemented.

During last week's board meeting, Warren mentioned that CUC—when it filed the rate petition in July last year—had expected the new rate to take effect in October last year.

According to Warren, CUC's original rate petition in July 2013 sought a total of $5.9 million in cost recovery: $2.8 million from the base rate hike; $2.4 million from standby charge; and another $680,000 for debt payments.

Of this proposal, only the $2.8 million has been approved while the standby charge remains on the CPUC's table for its next regulatory meeting.

CPUC chair Joe Guerrero earlier admitted that it's a bit harder to calculate the base rate because there is a need to program the Pacific Marine Industrial Corp. surcharge and have it tested in the CUC billing system.

Incorporated in the $2.8 million base rate petition is the $0.021 per kWh PMIC surcharge for all customers to fund CUC's remaining obligations under the buyout agreement with the company.

The base rate decision approved in February will mean reduced rates for residential customers who consume 340 kWh per month or less because of the "credit" approved for them. It will mean higher rates, however, for customers that consume a higher volume of power than average users.

The base rate is one of the two components of a customer's bill and is used for CUC's non-fuel expenses. The other is LEAC, or levelized energy adjustment clause, which is primarily for fuel expenses.

Inos leans toward SOCA in May

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is leaning toward delivering his first State of the Commonwealth Address in early May, press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday. The governor has also been "tentatively" scheduled as guest speaker on Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan membership meeting for the first time as governor.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) separately said yesterday there is no particular date set yet for the SOCA, but Torres said it would be held in the House chamber on Capital Hill.

"The governor is leaning toward the first part of May," Demapan said, adding that the governor has already been crafting the outline of his SOCA.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), meanwhile, suggested the week of April 21 "after Holy Week, when Congress will not be in session."

The speaker and president invited Inos to appear before a joint session of the Legislature to present a SOCA. The Legislature also invited the delegate to "report on the accomplishments of your office and your goals and objectives."

Sablan said he looks forward to talking about what he has been able to accomplish and what lies ahead. "And there is certainly plenty to report," he added.

He said as the CNMI's first delegate to U.S. Congress, he is very aware that whatever he does sets precedent. One of those was to "report regularly to the people I work for."

Five years ago, Sablan started the practice of town hall meetings, opened offices on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, and began sending out weekly e-newsletters and a biannual printed report to constituents. He keeps in touch with the media in person when he is on island and by e-mail. He set up a toll-free number so that constituents can easily call him or speak to any of the congressional staff. He

See SOCA on Page 4

Kilili praises court decision on California ban on shark fin sale

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) has hailed a federal district court decision upholding California's ban on the possession or sale of shark fins, even as the CNMI, other states, and territories remain in discussion with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on a proposed rule on shark fishing that could preempt state and territorial laws.

On Jan. 27, 2011, the CNMI become the first U.S. territory to ban shark fins. It was inspired by Hawaii, the first U.S. state to make it illegal to possess, sell, or distribute shark fins. The CNMI, in turn, inspired Guam to also introduce a similar legislation.

Sablan said a federal district court in the Northern District of California held that the California ban does not conflict with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the primary federal law governing management of the nation's fisheries.

"This is significant because the Commonwealth and 10 other U.S. states and territories have enacted similar laws," Sablan said.

Last year, NOAA proposed a rule on shark fishing that could preempt these state and territorial laws. In response, Sablan joined Rep. Jared Huffman (D-California), who wrote the California shark fin law as a Member of the State Assembly, along with over 60 other members of Congress, to protest the proposal.

"NOAA has reached agreement with the states of Maryland, Washington, and California on how to conform local and federal law on this issue. NOAA reports that it is still in discussion with the Commonwealth and the remaining states and territories," Sablan said.

Three years after the CNMI banned shark finning, the government has so far not caught or penalized anyone violating the law. The law prohibits possession, selling, offering for sale, trading, or distributing shark fins in the CNMI. It, however, allows catching of sharks for subsistence or non-commercial purposes. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

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59 sex offenders targeted in compliance checks

A total of 59 offenders in the CNMI were targeted during a three-day compliance check of registered sex offenders conducted by the U.S Marshals Service, Districts of Guam and CNMI.

The three-day operation was part of "Operation Deviant Guard," an initiative that is the fourth of similar operations conducted in the past.

U.S Marshals' Frank Leon Guerrero said that they are working with the Department of Public Safety and other agencies to make the CNMI a lot safer for everyone.

"We're working on forming a relationship with citizens in the CNMI also," he said.

The three-day operation resulted in the successful verification and location of the 59 offenders.

According to Jason Tarkong, officer-in-charge of the DPS Sex Offender Registry, four sex offenders are on Rota, eight are on Tinian, and 34 are on Saipan.

"Out of the 34 [on Saipan], only four have been released while 30 still remain at the Department of Corrections," Tarkong said.

One was arrested for non-compliance and failure to register.

According to Leon Guerrero, sex offenders are required by law to declare in writing the actual living address at which he or she will reside upon release.

JAYSON CAMACHO

The U.S. Marshals Service, District of Guam and the CNMI, in collaboration with the CNMI DPS Sex Offender Registry, the CNMI Office of Parole, CNMI Office of Adult Probation, and the U.S Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement, hold a press conference at the Superior Court in Susupe.

CNMI law states that the intentional failure to provide a timely and accurate written declaration shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by up to $1,000 and one year of imprisonment.

During the operation, law enforcement authorities also seized several potted marijuana plants, ranging from seedlings to seven feet tall.

According to authorities, the task force came upon the marijuana plants that were in plain view of a residence located next to a registered sex offender's home in Dandan.

A total of 63 marijuana plants were seized, taken into evidence, and turned over to narcotics officers for follow-up investigations.

John Untalan, Senior Inspector of the U.S Marshal Services, said that another 25 marijuana plants were seized from a sex offender's house in Papago and 28 marijuana plants from sex offenders in San Vicente.

"The street value is estimated to be at over $3,500, and that is a pretty big amount," Untalan said.

Other agencies involved in the operation were the Office of Parole, Office of Adult Probation, Department of Corrections, the Guam Police Department, Judiciary of Guam Marshals Division, Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Guam Department of Corrections.

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CHCC wants $41.5M budget for FY 2015

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. submitted an over $40-million operating budget plan for fiscal year 2015, an amount it described as only an "initial budget" pending unforeseen expenses as it continues to address the requirements of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

In a budget plan turned in by CHCC interim CEO Esther L. Muña on April 1 to the Office of Management and Budget, CHCC proposed an operating budget of $41.5 million that includes the Tinian and Rota health centers.

In her letter to OMB's Virginia Villagomez, Muña indicated that baselines for fiscal year 2015 are projected on last fiscal year's collections, billed procedures, and pending claims from fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

The bulk of the proposal is allocated for personnel at $26.391 million. This is a 2-percent increase over the current personnel cost. CHCC proposes a total of 567 personnel for fiscal 2015—also 2-percent hike.

The 567 proposed positions will be assigned at the following: Commonwealth Health Center, 465; CEO office, five; Public Health, 17; Community Guidance Center, seven; Tinian Health Center, 30; and Rota Health Center, 43.

For operations, Muña proposes a budget of $9.960 million.

Some $3.2 million will go to medical general supplies; $2.3 million for medical pharmaceutical supplies; $938,000 for medical laboratory supplies; $857,000 for professional services; $851,000 for cleaning services; and $570,000 for repairs and maintenance, among other items under operation.

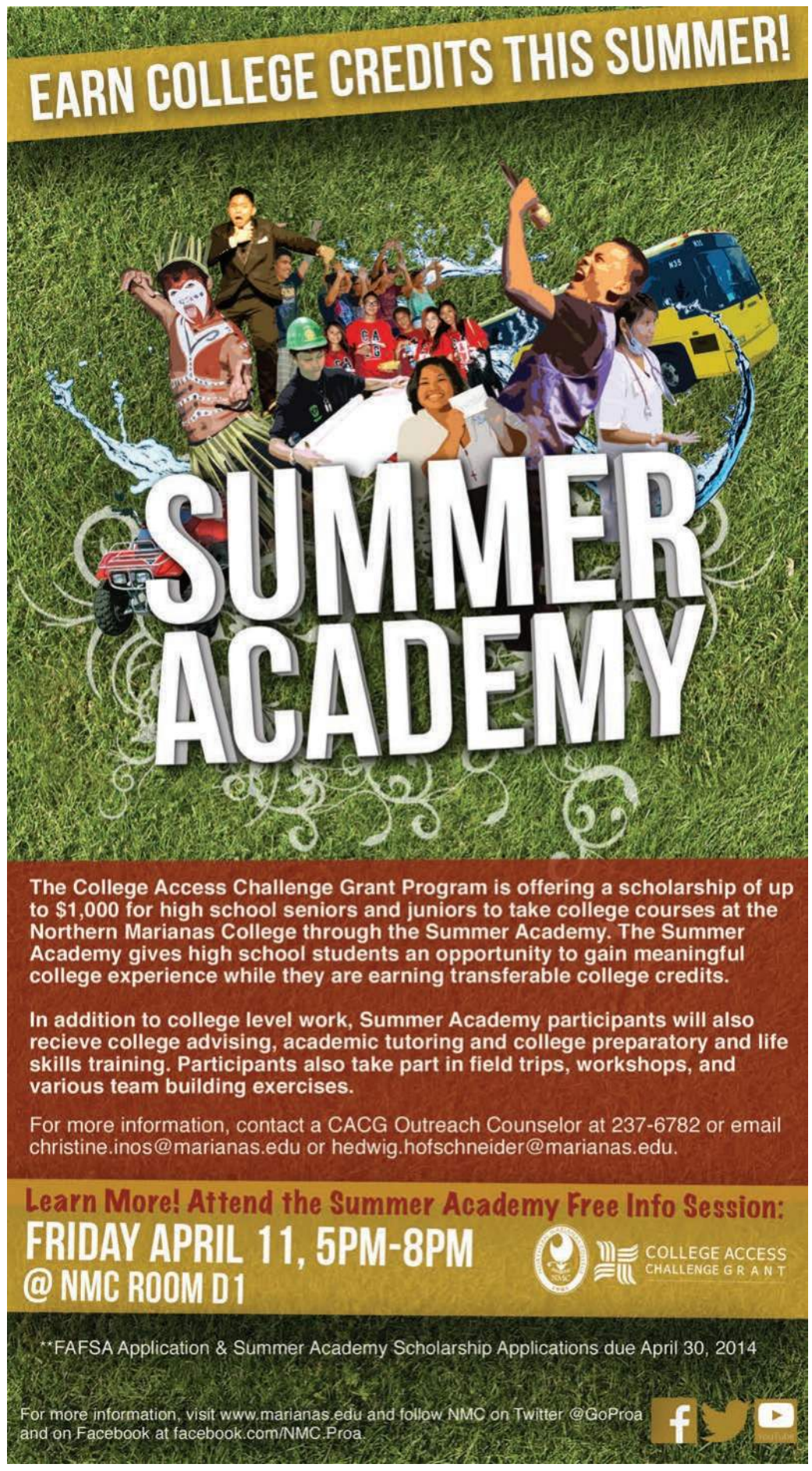
Muna said that overall general medical, laboratory, and pharmaceutical supplies expense is budgeted at $6.5 million—an increase of 9 percent compared to last fiscal year's submission. The inflation factor, she said, is due to increased services and costs.

For utilities, CHCC projects an expense of $4.9 million, a 16-percent decrease. The decline is anticipated due to an HVAC system upgrade that will eventually reduce power consumption.

Also in the budget proposal is interest expense as the corporation expects to extend its line of credit with the Marianas Public Land Trust.

According to Muña, the fiscal year 2015 budget proposal will be an ongoing process and is presented as a working document. She said the management will continue to assess areas to reduce operating costs.

"However, the corporation will continue to incur unforeseen expenditure as we continue to address Medicare compliance," she told OMB.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Kilili picks up ball for islands as Faleomavaega still MIA

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Pacific News Center)—CNMI Delegate Greg Kilili Sablan went to bat for the territories on Compact Impact Aid recently, amid the continued absence of a fellow delegate.

American Samoa Delegate Eni Faleomavaega has not been seen in public here since his office announced weeks ago he was back from an apparent October stroke and undergoing rehabilitation.

His Capitol Hill Office continues to issue press releases in his name with quotes, and even one with an office photo of him and a visiting local official but Faleomavaega has attended no meetings, including those focused on top island issues, and his fellow delegates apparently haven't seen him either, raising questions about the seriousness of his condition.

His illness has left colleagues trying to fill a void.

NMI's Sablan asked Interior Secretary Sally Jewell at a hearing on her fiscal year 2015 budget about a plan to shift $1.7 million in scarce Compact aid dollars to school repair planning teams.

Sablan said, "Each of the insular areas…American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Marianas, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, would be expected to come up with $1 million for the actual materials for the school improvements. This doesn't sound like a very good trade-off, as far as I'm concerned."

Sablan later learned from Interior Officials that the $1 million would come from federal Capital Improvement Program or "CIP" funding.

Jewell described it as an "efficiency move" by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Jewell said, "We're trying to be more efficient and effective in response, by combining the efforts. The Army Corps is looking at a regional effort… and they believe they can achieve better economies of scale by doing that, than by doing it piecemeal."

Sablan was concerned that the shifted Compact funds would not be available to go directly for education but it was an example of how the islands are now further disadvantaged, politically lacking a vote except in committee, all Democrats, and Sablan an independent in a GOP house and now lacking one of their own.

Faleomavaega who sits near Sablan on Natural Resources, is a senior panel member and the top Democrat on House Foreign Affairs Asian and the Pacific Subcommittee.

HAIR

From Page 1

larly how hair and fiber examinations are done as well as hair and fiber comparison processing techniques.

Otterstatter said the FBI Lab in Virginia received from the FBI Saipan office the hair that was recovered from the front passenger side of a Toyota Corolla with license plate ACG-246 on March 14, 2012. That same day, Otterstatter said, the FBI Lab also received Romero's hair sample.

She said her analysis led her to conclude that the hair from the car matched Romero's sample hair.

On the fiber analysis she made in June 2012, Otterstatter said she concluded that fibers taken from the driver's side of the car were consistent with the fibers of the black cotton leggings taken from Romero. This means the fibers found from the car have the same fiber characteristics as the leggings, she added.

Otterstatter said that two black/brown polyester fibers taken from the right passenger seat of the car were also consistent with the fibers of Romero's zorie found at the former La Fiesta Mall.

Responding to defense attorney Janet H. King's questions, Otterstatter agreed with King that hair examination does not constitute personal identification. She also stated that fibers cannot be identified to a single source.

Otterstatter disclosed that she found hair of Caucasian characteristics from Romero's zorie. She said she also found hair of Caucasian characteristics in Romero's pantyliner.

She said Crisostomo's hair sample was dissimilar to the hair taken from Romero's zorie.

She also disclosed that her analysis of some of the hairs taken from Romero's body and submitted for analysis indicated they were dog hairs.

Otterstatter said a black cotton fiber found in Romero's fingernails on her left hand was not tested because the leggings was around the victim's neck.

Van Buren, who was next on the witness stand, said he was then a frequent customer of Godfather's Bar and that Romero was his girlfriend and that they had a sexual relationship. Van Buren said he and Romero last saw each other when she visited him at his house on Feb. 2, 2012.

He said on the evening of Feb. 4 to early morning of Feb. 5, 2012, he and Godfather's owner Scott Dottino had a couple of beers at two establishments. He said he went home on a taxicab at 1am on Feb. 5.

Van Buren said that Romero then texted him that she would just ride a taxi on her way to his house. That was her last text message to him.

He said he started to worry when the taxi driver they know went to his house at 3am and told him that Romero called to pick her up, but she was not there.

"I tried to call her but her phone was dead," Van Buren said, adding that he got worried so he called 911, texted her, and contacted some people.

Van Buren said that Romero was supposed to report for work at 5pm on Feb. 5, but she did not show up, and that got him really worried. He called the police and officers came and started investigating.

Van Buren said he also called FBI special agent Joseph Auther and informed him about what happened.

Van Buren said three or four days after Romero's body was found, he hired a lawyer friend, Bruce Berline, because police told him that everybody was a suspect. He said police investigators interviewed him three times.

Van Buren said he told Auther that he was dating Romero. He also stated that he informed Auther about the taxicab driver who went to his house.

He said he volunteered to submit his DNA sample to investigators a couple of months later.

Van Buren said that Romero told him she's not dating anyone else.

After Van Buren, Police Officer 2 Kevin Maratita took the witness stand. He said he was involved in taking Crisostomo's footprints at the Department of Corrections on Dec. 24, 2013. He said there were many officers present, along with interim chief prosecutor Brian Flaherty.

Maratita said they made Crisostomo walk on papers with ink to get his feet impressions. He unrolled a paper that contained the defendant's feet impressions to show it to the jurors. Maratita will resume his testimony today, Thursday, at 8:30am.

In the continuation of his testimony yesterday, FBI special agent Haejun Park said he saw the Toyota Corolla with license plate ACG-246 on Feb. 9, 2012, already at the Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Section, where he and FBI technician and a police officer processed it. Park said DPS officers brought the car to Boating Safety Section.

Park earlier testified that Crisostomo used that car at the time when Romero disappeared. The car was rented for him by his sister, Annie, from Islander Rent A Car.

During King's cross-examination, Park said they took 18 latent prints from the car and also swab from the vehicle's headrest. Park said the latent prints taken from the car did not match either Crisostomo or Romero and had no value to the investigation.

Park said that Crisostomo's sister, Annie, returned the car to Islander Rental Car and exchanged it for other vehicle with a different color later that day on Feb. 5, 2012.

Park said that two other persons had already rented the car before they processed it on Feb. 9.

Park said he met with Van Buren when the latter voluntarily submitted his DNA sample in November 2013. He said he was aware prior to the meeting that Van Buren and Romero had a relationship.

He said he and police officers went back to the abandoned La Fiesta on April 27, 2012, after three children recovered at Building II Romero's purse that contained items such as the victim's photo, perfume, ATM card, and others. Park said the purse was not sent to FBI Lab because they believed it was not necessary because the children admitted touching the items and that one even used the perfume. The purse was turned over to DPS.

Park said that eight latent prints taken from La Fiesta were not fingerprints of either Crisostomo or Romero. The partial prints and palm prints recovered from the car also did not match Crisostomo or Romero, he added.

When asked by Flaherty as to the meaning of inconclusive results, Park said it means not enough details to make a comparison and that it could be due to a lot of reasons.

On the metal door that investigators took from the restroom, Park said it was pretty heavy and took two or three of them to lift it without damaging it. He said the door was leaning against the wall but not blocking the entrance to the room where Romero's body was found.

Park said that, according to test results, no blood was detected on the door.

Park said that after looking at all the evidence and obtaining the statements of witnesses, their investigation led them to Crisostomo as the suspect. That prompted them to obtain Crisostomo's fingerprints.

Park said, however, that those fingerprints and footprints taken from the crime scene did not come back to say it's Crisostomo. Park said the FBI Lab results on the latent prints and footprints also do not point to Crisostomo.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who is presiding over the trial, asked Park based on his investigation and knowledge and experience, if they determined how heavy Romero was because the photos showed at least four investigators lifting her body for transportation to the Commonwealth Health Center. The judge also asked if they determined how the victim was carried to the restroom or if she was able to walk.

Park said that Romero was skinny, but that a decomposing body becomes heavy.

Park said they believe that Romero was carried to the restroom because they did not find her footprints and also because of the drag marks. He demonstrated to the eight jurors how they believe Romero was carried to the restroom.

Park said that Romero was carried face down.

He said there is no information whether Romero was killed or unconscious at La Fiesta and that it was also possible she was strangled there. He said Romero did not walk on her own to the restroom.

Park said the former La Fiesta is almost completely dark at night. He said if there is moonlight or someone using a light, one could go there and dump a body.

Park completed his testimony at 10:45am. He started his testimony on Tuesday.

MARPI

From Page 1

etery using U.S. Department of the Interior funding through capital improvement project grant was completed in early 2011, three years ago. A year has passed since the media reported on the completed cemetery that at the time was already idle for two years.

As of yesterday, there's no telling whether the opening of the new public cemetery would be marked by a ribbon cutting ceremony because of the nature of the project.

"Making this public cemetery operational is long overdue. … The government won't let the property go to waste or deteriorate," Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold I. Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

DLNR will be officially in charge of maintaining the new Marpi public cemetery, which is adjacent to the CNMI Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

DLNR, according to Palacios, has already been maintaining the Marpi public cemetery, specifically its Parks and Recreation and Agriculture divisions, which have the equipment and the manpower to do so.

"We are trying to make do with what we have. For fiscal year 2015, we're planning on having $60,000 to $80,000 for the maintenance of the Marpi public cemetery alone. In the meantime, we're also looking at whether the administration could reprogram funds, until the next fiscal year when it will be budgeted under DLNR," said Palacios, a former speaker and now vying for a senatorial seat.

Under the governor's budget, the Department of Public Works' Grounds and Maintenance Division will be consolidated with that of DLNR's Parks and Recreation Division and this will also help DLNR take on the additional task of officially maintaining the new public cemetery.

While the numbers are still being finalized, Palacios said the cost of each burial could be between $250 and $300, lower than the earlier estimate of $400. The government could partially subsidize the cost later, he added.

Demapan said the Division of Public Health "will take burial applications and collect fees."

"Management of contract for openings and closings and grounds will be Department of Lands and Natural Resources," he added.

A contract has yet to be awarded for the "opening and closing" of burial crypts.

Demapan said the government is considering sharing power for the Marpi public cemetery with the Veterans Cemetery, "but this is based on a generator."

Palacios said "power should not be an issue" because of the generator available at the adjacent cemetery.

Regulations for the operation and maintenance of the public cemetery have yet to be finalized.

The new, non-denominational public cemetery in Marpi has 2,500 double crypts or double-stack occupancy crypts for a total of 5,000 burials. It has a potential to provide over 50,000 crypts for 33 years.

Under a 14-year-old law, upon completion of the Marpi Public Cemetery construction, there should no longer be burials at the Wireless Hill Public Cemetery on Capital Hill.

The law says "within 60 days of such closure," the DPH secretary—now the CHC chief executive officer—shall submit an exhumation plan for the transfer of bodies to the Marpi Public Cemetery and anticipated related costs."

No such exhumation plan for the bodies' transfer has been submitted and the Marpi Public Cemetery has yet to open.

SOCA

From Page 2

also has an active dialog with constituents "who want to share their thoughts through e-mails, letters, and on Facebook where I answer anyone's questions."

"Future delegates may choose different means to communicate and report to constituents, but I think I have definitely set a standard for letting people know what their delegate is doing. Now because of this concern about setting precedent, I think it would not be appropriate for me to take any action that would obligate any future delegate to Congress to appear before the Legislature. Being clear about that, however, I do appreciate the invitation from the Legislature and have let the presiding officers know when I can be available," he said.

Disbarred lawyer Atalig slapped with 6-mo. prison term

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Disbarred lawyer Antonio M. Atalig was sentenced yesterday to a maximum of six months in prison without parole for criminal contempt after he failed to report to the Department of Corrections to serve his sentence in a domestic violence case.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman said the sentence shall run consecutively with the eight-month sentence that was earlier slapped against Atalig in the domestic violence case.

This means that Atalig will serve the six months for criminal contempt on top of the eight-month prison term in the domestic violence case.

Wiseman required Atalig to pay a $100 fine and $25 court assessment fee.

Wiseman removed the work release conditions that he imposed in the domestic violence case.

Atalig

In handing down the sentence, the judge cited Atalig's previous criminal convictions as well as his handling of a probate matter that led to his disbarment.

Wiseman said the government should consider filing a perjury case against Atalig. Apparently, the alleged perjury pertained to Atalig's declarations filed in local courts about his failure to report to DOC.

The 57-year-old Atalig apologized to the court for his actions.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas recommended a sentence of six months in prison, while defense counsel Robert Myers Jr. recommended a six-month probation sentence.

Last April 1, Wiseman found Atalig guilty of criminal contempt for not complying with the court's order requiring him to report to DOC on Feb. 15, 2014.

"I do not find Atalig's testimony credible at all," Wiseman had said at the hearing.

According to court records, Atalig pleaded guilty last year to assault and battery, two counts of disturbing the peace, and criminal contempt. Wiseman sentenced him to eight months in prison. The judge then granted Atalig's request to delay reporting to DOC because he needed to find a job and fulfill many other obligations.

Wiseman orally granted Atalig's request, ordering him to report to DOC on or before Feb. 15, 2014. The defendant submitted a proposed order to start serving his sentence on Feb. 15, 2015. Wiseman signed the order but later corrected the year to 2014.

On Feb. 25, 2014, Myers, on behalf of Atalig, asked Wiseman to extend once more the time for Atalig to serve his sentence, claiming, among other things, that the typographical error was due to a recording error. Wiseman rejected Atalig's motion.

Wiseman then issued an arrest warrant for Atalig after learning that he did not report to DOC on Feb. 15. Police, court marshals, and probation officers failed to locate him.

On March 7, Atalig surrendered to DOC to begin serving his eight-month prison term for domestic violence.

Wiseman then issued an order to show cause, directing Atalig to explain why he should not be held in contempt.

Atalig said he reported to DOC on March 7 after somebody informed him a day earlier that the police were looking for him. Atalig said he was not in hiding as he was processing some paperwork between As Lito and Capital Hill at the time.

In May 2012, Wiseman suspended Atalig and Reynaldo O. Yana from practicing law in the CNMI after they refused to return $1.1 million in attorneys' fees that the two obtained from the Angel Malite estate. In January 2014, the CNMI Supreme Court disbarred the two lawyers.

Inos seeks CNMI membership in America Alliance of States

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The CNMI is seeking membership in the Complete College America Alliance of States, a national nonprofit organization that works with states to significantly increase the number of Americans with quality career certificates or college degrees.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos made this known to the national group in a letter to its president, Stan Jones.

"The CNMI is formally requesting to join the Complete College America Alliance of States. As a U.S. territory, we will assemble a team of committed leaders to advance the game-changer college completion policy agenda here in the CNMI," said Inos in the letter that was also signed by Northern Marianas College Board of Regents chair Frank Rabauliman.

According to Inos, the CNMI will form within six months a team that will be tasked to produce state baseline completion data using common metrics, set state and college completion goals, and develop state and college completion plans.

"Additionally, the CNMI will report, on an annual basis, our progress toward these goals," added Inos.

The governor appointed NMC president Dr. Sharon Y. Hart as liaison to the Alliance. "We appreciate that with our membership, we will be able to receive technical assistance via phone/Skype," according to Inos.

If accepted, the CNMI will be the first U.S. territory to join the alliance.

Members of the Alliance of States have pledged to take actions to significantly increase the number of students successfully completing college and achieving degrees and credentials with value in the labor market. Members also close attainment gaps for traditionally underrepresented populations.

NMC earlier disclosed that too few of its students graduate on time, with only 8 percent of associate degree students graduating within two years and zero percent of students completing a four-year degree on time.

NMC has only one four-year degree, the School of Education. Most of its courses are for associate degrees, or two-year programs. Come fall semester, a new four-year program will be offered: degree in business.

At the national level, 12 percent of two-year degree students graduate on time; 22 percent complete two-year degrees in three years; and 28 percent complete their degree in four years.

Bank of Hawaii is ranked top performing 'large' bank in US

HONOLULU, Hawaii—*ABA Banking Journal*, a leading national trade publication, named Bank of Hawaii the top performing bank in the nation for 2013 among the largest public banks and thrifts. Bank of Hawaii rose in ranking from its No. 2 position the prior year.

The rankings were published in the magazine's April 2014 edition.

Peter Ho, Bank of Hawaii chairman, president and CEO, said, "This is wonderful recognition for our employees and testament to the hard work they do every day in helping our customers meet their financial needs. It's also a reflection of our great customers and the community in which we operate. We take pride in our performance and strive to do our best for the people who count on us."

ABA Banking Journal reviewed the performance of federally insured domestic depository institutions with total assets of $10 billion or more as of Dec. 31, 2013, and ranked them by return on average total equity (ROAE). Bank of Hawaii had assets of $14.1 billion and ROAE of 14.78 percent.

The rankings are based on SEC filings for public institutions and regulatory filings for non-public and foreign-owned institutions, and are prepared by Capital Performance Group, Washington, D.C.,

Bank of Hawaii also earned ABA's No. 1 spot for its performance in 2008 and 2011. ***(PR)***

Sparse attendance at climate change group meetings

Of the 33 participating agencies and organizations in the Climate Change Working Group, only five members showed up during its monthly meeting Tuesday.

The group first convened in June 2012 to lay a strategic foundation for climate change adaptation planning in the CNMI.

According to Maryann Arriola, zoning planner for CNMI Zoning, members that usually show up for the monthly meetings range from three to seven. This month's meeting only had five members representing three government agencies out of 33 agencies and organizations.

Members that showed up were Rebecca Skeele, Robbie Greene, and Lainie Zanores from the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Geri Dela Cruz from the Department of Public Works, and Arriola from the Zoning Board.

"There's not much people from different organizations showing up," Arriola said. "We encourage them to attend and suggest that they come to the meeting every month because we need to get together for contribution. We need their input."

The group was created to develop a unified CNMI approach for adapting to climate change.

Arriola noted that the group has been pushing for a framework and adaptation plan for the CNMI, including goals and actions that need to be addressed.

"We can't put the goals and decision-making [in motion] when everyone doesn't show up," she said.

She encouraged more representatives from the participating organizations to attend the meetings. "Again, we encourage all participating organizations to send representatives for our monthly meetings because we don't want to wait until its too late to make any decisions."

In a statement that Gov. Eloy S. Inos sent to all department and activity heads last Feb. 6, he directed all departments, divisions, offices, government corporations, boards, and commissions of the Commonwealth government to appoint a representative from their respective offices to participate in the meetings, trainings, and associated activities of the group. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Left to right, Rebecca Skeele (Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality), Geri Dela Cruz (Department of Public Works), Maryann Arriola (Zoning Board), Robbie Greene (BECQ), and Lainie Zanores (BECQ) attend the Climate Change Working Group's monthly meeting at the Zoning Office conference room on April 8, 2014.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Thirteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Friday, April 11, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at the BOE Conference Room in Bwughos Street, Susupe, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
   a. March 18, 2014 Special Board Meeting

II. Public Comments[1]

III. Reports
1. Chair
2. Board Committees
   a. BOE-NMC BOR Ad Hoc
   b. FPA
   c. ISA
   d. LIA
   e. SARC
3. Commissioner of Education
   a. Financial Status Reports
      i. Federal
      ii. Local
   b. Head Start Program Report
   c. Other matters

IV. Unfinished Business
1. Retirement of Debt – Travel
2. CUC Matter
3. FY2013 Audit
4. Emergency Logistics & Management Operations Manual (ELMO)

V. New Business
1. House Legislative Initiative No. 18-12
2. House Resolution No. 18-54
3. Consolidated Grant Application for SY2014-2015
4. Governor's Proposed Budget for FY2015
5. Final Rules and Regulations: 60-40-400 Protests and Disputes
6. Annual Report for 2013
7. Special Education Program Grant Application (Part B) for FFY 2014
8. Early Intervention Program Grant Application (Part C) for FFY 2014
9. PSS Calendar for SY 2014-2015
10. COE Goals and Objectives for 2013-2014

VI. Executive Session[2]
1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel
3. Other matters

VII. Administrative Matters
1. Certification and Licensure Matters
   a. State Certification and Licensure Proposal Draft #1
   b. Request for teaching experience to be credited to course certification
   c. Recommendation for Issuance of Certification & Licensure

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

IX. Adjournment

[1]Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

TO AVOID $2.5M SHORTFALL

Change in retirement contribution formula pushed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan) prefiled yesterday a bill amending the retirement contribution formula for autonomous agencies and the central government to prevent the Settlement Fund from sustaining a shortfall of some $2.5 million annually that could result in asset depletion by 2019.

In his House Bill 18-184, Taitano said the Finance secretary has failed to adjust the contribution formula required by Public Law 17-82.

That law allowed active members to withdraw Retirement Fund contributions and required Finance to determine the central government and autonomous agencies' contribution rates to the Retirement Fund.

"This bill adopts the percentage of liability for each autonomous agency of the annual cost of paying retirement benefits and provides for adjustment of the percentage by the Secretary of Finance," said Taitano, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement Issues. His bill seeks to change Section 203 of PL 17-82 as amended by PL 18-2.

The bill requires the government to make contributions to the "Settlement Fund established by the Settlement Agreement in *Johnson v. Inos*" each year.

It says the amount of contribution required by each autonomous agency for Class I and Class II members shall be equal to the sum of normal cost of providing "75 percent" of the payments to the beneficiaries and the expense of administering the Settlement Fund for the next fiscal year.

This will be determined by the Finance secretary, in consultation with the Settlement Fund trustee, multiplied by the following percentages:

Public School System, 22.50 percent; Board of Education, 0.10 percent; Commonwealth Development Authority, 0.60 percent; Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., 17.15 percent; Commonwealth Ports Authority, 6 percent; Commonwealth Utilities Corp., 8.7 percent; Northern Marianas College, 3.9 percent; Northern Marianas Housing Corp., 0.90 percent; NMI Retirement Fund, 1.10 percent; Office of the Public Auditor, 1.40 percent; Public Utilities Commission, 0.04 percent; and Tinian Municipal Agencies of Local Government, 2.60 percent.

Taitano, in his bill, said the Finance secretary may adjust these percentages, pursuant to autonomous agencies' request supported by an actuarial analysis showing that the liability for retirement benefits is lower than the percentage indicated.

The bill also says autonomous agencies remain liable for the 25 percent of contributions necessary to fund the deferred pension payments.

"In the event that the Commonwealth government funds the restoration of the 25 percent deferred pension payments for all retirees, the autonomous agencies shall reimburse the Commonwealth government in the percentages set forth…" the bill adds.

As of yesterday, there's no telling when the next House session would be, so that Taitano can formally introduce his new bill.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

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Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold a special meeting on **Monday, April 14, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.** at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of the Minutes – April 3, 2014 Meeting

II. CASH FLOW & RATE MATTERS

III. CONTRACT REVIEWS
A. Stipulated Orders
B. Telesource
C. Call Center

IV. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION*

VII. ADJOURNMENT

*Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

SHEFA posts $23,000 collection from scholars' loans

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

»'Financial aid disbursed since inception at $23M'

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, or SHEFA, has been able to collect a significant amount from loans made by its scholars in the last nine years since its creation.

SHEFA administrator Merissa S. Rasa disclosed in her 2013 Annual Report released yesterday that collections from loan repayment is currently at $23,101, which covers the period from 2004 through 2013.

The report indicates that SHEFA began collecting loan repayments in 2006 when it initially collected $553. A year after, the collection grew to $3,525. From 2008 through 2010, SHEFA showed an average annual flat rate collection ranging from $2,000 to $2,500 per year.

It was in 2011 when the program recorded the highest loan repayment of $5,745 from defaulted scholars. In 2012, the office was able to collect a meager $666 until last year, 2013, when repayment jumped to $5,745 again.

Based on SHEFA rules and policy, within three months of successful completion or 30 days of termination or non-enrollment from the institution of record, whichever event occurs first, the recipient of financial assistance from the SHEFA fund is required to return to Saipan for employment and/or to provide services in the private or public section on Saipan.

If a former recipient decides to remain and work abroad three months after completion or termination of his or her college studies, the grant assistance converts into a loan that must be repaid.

Rasa also disclosed in her report that from 2004 through 2013, the government invested a total of $22.942 million to help local students pursue degrees here and abroad.

Total awards provided for the nine-year period is broken down as follows: 2004, $170,600; 2005, $1.925 million; 2006, $2.782 million; 2007, $2.302 million; 2008, $3.026 million; 2009, $3.078 million; 2010, $3.654 million; 2011, $2.810 million; 2012, $1.540 million; and 2013, $1.651 million.

Only students of Saipan and the Northern Islands) are eligible for SHEFA assistance. Funding for this program is sourced from poker and pachinko machines' local license fees.

2013 highlights

Rasa cited several highlights for 2013. Besides the reappointment of some board members and a new member, she reported that the office was also able to publish revision to its rules and regulations in the *Commonwealth Register*.

She also cited the CNMI's membership in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, which gives eligible CNMI residents discounted tuition rates at more than 150 colleges and universities in California, Oregon, Washington, and other western states.

"Awards continue to be requested and released in a timely manner. Appeals have also been addressed and resolved in a timely manner," indicated Rasa's report.

Additionally, she said SHEFA continues to collaborate with the Office of Personnel Management and the Workforce Investment Agency to assist graduates or previous recipients in getting them hired or for further training.

SHEFA also continues to partner with the Workforce Investment Agency every summer to provide employment training to WIA trainees. SHEFA also makes continuous onsite presentations about the program in various educational institutions.

Through the use of networking sites such as Facebook, SHEFA is able to announce financial assistance opportunities, training/workshop opportunities and employment opportunities, to name a few, to many of its current and previous recipients.

Abandoned homes in Guam create blight

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)— Scores of abandoned homes across Guam are affecting the quality of life for neighbors and decreasing property values of nearby homes, with the ownership of many structures unknown.

There are about 300 abandoned homes in Dededo alone by Mayor Melissa Savares' count. The empty houses can become illegal dumping grounds or homes to squatters, she said.

Many of the abandoned concrete homes on the island belonged to families who bought them in the 1950s through the 1970s after typhoons destroyed wood-and-tin homes, *Pacific Daily News* reported. Now, members of that generation are dying, with many not leaving wills. In some cases, heirs have moved off the island and can't take care of the homes anymore.

Mangilao Mayor Nito Blas said he has been asked by prospective buyers whether abandoned homes in his village are for sale.

He says the problem is he doesn't know who owns many of the homes anymore. The University of Guam, for example, asked for his help in renovating a derelict, empty home next to the campus.

"I've been trying to find out who [the owner] gave authorization to handle this," Blas said.

Even if a homeowner left a will, relatives still need to file probate with courts.

If a homeowner did not leave a will, the probate process could be expensive. If conflicts arise among those interested in a property, usually family members, the process could take years before a court decides.

Sinajana Mayor Robert Hofman said the probate process can cost thousands of dollars that some families cannot afford. He said for families struggling with the issue of property ownership, the only solution is to decrease the cost of resolving issues.

"Make the legal process cheaper," he said.

SUPERIOR COURT
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, U.S.A.
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307

Announcement for Transcription Services

The CNMI Judiciary is seeking qualified businesses or individuals to provide transcription services for the Commonwealth Superior Court pursuant to CNMI Procurement Regulations: NMIAC § 70-30.3-220. Interested parties should pick up an information packet with submission requirements and instructions from the Office of the Clerk of Court, Superior Court located in the Guma Husticia/Imwal Aweewe/House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan. Submissions are due no later than April 30, 2014. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Patrick V. Diaz, Clerk of Court at 236-9766 or 236-9765.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 Fax (670) 664-2547

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) PROGRAM SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Child Care and Development fund (CCDF) Program announces an opportunity for non-profit, community/faith based organizations to participate in a Summer Program Grant. This grant is open to organizations that offer Summer Programs to all school-aged children between the ages 6 to 13 years old. Eligible proposals may receive up to $20,000. For this grant, a total of seven (7) awards will be provided. CCDF has the right to award smaller grant awards as appropriate.

CCDF Summer Program Grant Application Packets maybe picked up at the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program Office, Building No. 1347 Ascension Court, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

Completed applications along with 4 copies should be placed in a sealed envelope marked: **CCDF Summer Program Grant Application 2014** and submitted to the CCDF Program Office with address above. Applications will be accepted no later than April 15, 2014 at 12:00p.m. Faxed and emailed applications will not be reviewed and will be returned to the applicant.

Inquiries regarding this grant opportunity should be addressed to Roselle Teregeyo, CCDF Accountant/Summer Program Lead or Maribel Loste, CCDF Administrator and can be made in the following way:

1. In writing and forwarded to the address above or
2. Thru e-mail at ccdf.roselleteregeyo@gmail.com or ccdf.maribelloste@gmail.com

Phone inquiries will not be entertained.

Approved for distribution:
/s/Laura T. Ogumoro
DCCA Secretary
Date: 03/18/14

Former residents, descendants go back to Sumay

SANTA RITA, Guam—More than 100 family members and several surviving residents of the former Sumay village visited U.S. Naval Base Guam to celebrate the fifth "Back to Sumay Day" on April 5.

NBG leadership welcomed the families onto the base as a way to remember the history of the former village, which became a part of the installation after the U.S. liberated the island from Japanese occupation in 1944.

"All of you who have come back to this place to remember Sumay the way it was and recollect its rich history shows your devotion to your past and your heritage," said NBG executive officer Cmdr. David Ellis. "I think that's what makes Guam so special. It's the willingness of generations to preserve their past and share it not only with family and friends but with those who come to live, work, and visit the island."

NBG and volunteers from several Navy commands partnered with the Santa Rita Mayor's Office to celebrate and remember the pre-World War II village and the Chamorros who once lived there.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Local residents and members of the Navy community sing the national anthem and Guam Hymn to kick off a fiesta during the fifth "Back to Sumay Day" on U.S. Naval Base Guam on April 5.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

U.S. Naval Base Guam Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Rean Enriquez delivers Holy Communion to Engracia Pangelinan, a former Sumay resident, at a Mass during the fifth "Back to Sumay Day" on NBG on April 5.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Local residents and members of the Navy community enjoy a fiesta-style lunch during the fifth "Back to Sumay Day" on U.S. Naval Base Guam on April 5.

"I am proud to be from Sumay," said Santa Rita Mayor Dale Alvarez. "I am even prouder that I can make this visit to Sumay possible with our military friends, who have honored and respected our ancestors by maintaining this little piece of Guam for us to enjoy and reconnect with our past."

Highlights of the event included a Mass held in front of the cross of the Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe at the site of the former church, a fiesta-style lunch at the Clipper Landing Park, static historical displays, and live dancing and singing by the Chamorro cultural group Inetnon Gef Pa'go.

Prior to World War II, Sumay played an important role in Guam's economic growth, evolving from a fishing community to a hub for shipping, agriculture, and communications.

"I used to play here and go fishing out there because it's a nice place to go fishing, go boating and swim," said Juan Perez Cepeda, a former resident who visited the village for the first time since before the war. "I could not be happier to share this with my family because they need to know where their family is from. They need to know this place. I will always remember the times I spent here." ***(Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office)***

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Sailors from several Navy commands on Guam assist local residents after a Mass during the fifth "Back to Sumay" Day on U.S. Naval Base Guam on April 5.

JESSE LEON GUERRERO

U.S. Naval Base Guam executive officer Cmdr. David Ellis gives a speech during the fifth "Back to Sumay Day" on NBG on April 5.

House panel OKs passage of amended dormant bank accounts bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Committee on Commerce is recommending passage of a new version of a bill amending the law that allows the CNMI government to access dormant and inactive bank accounts and unclaimed funds for depositors' accounts. The bill strengthens the intent to prevent banks from raiding accounts so that account holders won't lose their money.

The committee version of House Bill 18-94, authored by Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Covsaipan), redefines an "inactive" savings account as one that does not have deposits or withdrawals for 24 months since the last transaction on the account.

A checking account is considered "inactive" if no deposits, issuance of checks, or withdrawals are made to and from the account for six months since the last transaction on the account, under HB 18-94, HD1 that amends Public Law 17-69.

A passbook savings account, meanwhile, is considered "inactive" if there are no deposits or withdrawals for 24 months since the last transaction on the account.

"If an account is inactive, and the depositor cannot be located, a bank shall transfer the balance of the account to the Commonwealth Treasurer for the account of the depositor. The transfer shall be in accordance with the Commonwealth Department of Commerce regulations," the amended bill said.

Four of the seven members of the Commerce Committee signed off on the report recommending passage of HB 18-94 in the form of House Draft 1. They included chairman Villagomez, vice chair Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Mario Taitano (Ind-Saipan).

The committee said that prior to Public Law 17-69, there were already statutes governing dormant and inactive bank accounts to be transferred to the CNMI Treasury but banks made no such transfers "because of the fact that the statute stated that banks may transfer fund, not necessarily requiring them to transfer dormant/inactive accounts to the CNMI Treasury."

The panel added that prior to P.L. 17-69, banks did not inform customers when their accounts have been declared dormant or inactive.

Historically, banks charge dormant or inactive accounts a fee of $15 to $20 a month, quickly diminishing the account balances and eventually zeroing the bank account.

The committee said HB 18-94, in the form of House Draft 1, will rectify technical language within the existing statutes in order for banks to provide information on dormant or inactive accounts and to transfer such funds to the CNMI Treasury.

Committee members said the amended bill will address the many complaints regarding dormant and inactive accounts when it comes time for the depositor's heirs or legal representatives to collect what rightfully belongs to them "through the hard work of their predecessors."

The House Committee on Commerce worked with the Department of Commerce's banking director to amend the bill.

Int'l Christian group puts on show for Saipan youth

By THOMAS A. MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Members of the Covenant Players, an international Christian theater company and communications organization, visited Mount Carmel School on Tuesday as a part of their nine-month tour. The Covenant Players, who are also a part of the Pacific Gate Unit, is made up of Kurt Purucker, Cathy Purucker, and Maddison Grayson.

According to the group's website, Covenant Players has pioneered the use of drama as a communications resource in the church since 1963. Members "travel throughout the world communicating the reality of the Gospel in churches of all denominations."

The nonprofit group put on a 40-minute show for primary and junior high grade school students. The play featured children and students in their own worlds. The students are frustrated with each other and want to be on their own but the male in the story wants to be friendly and sees the best in other people. After hurting his feelings the two female characters return to apologize and make things right.

They also presented their version of *The Good Samaritan* in a more modern way—with models, businessmen, and students ignoring and eventually helping an old woman who was mugged at a train station. Students got to act as a part of the presentation.

"We aim to help people learn lessons and values and godly principles for living," said Kathy Purucker.

Grayson, for her part, said that Saipan is "probably one of my favorite places in the world."

The Christian drama ministry also visited Grace Christian Academy and Green Meadow School.

The group has visited Guam on several occasions before and Saipan is now a stop on their list of places to present their program.

"I think the play is important because it taught me that if you help other people good things will also come to you. I felt really happy when the students helped the old lady in the play," said 3rd grade student Brissa Hunter.

All three actors have been active in drama since their preteen days. Both Kurt and Kathy have been involved in the ministry for almost three decades now. Grayson just celebrated seven months.

They told *Saipan Tribune* that they plan on visiting Saipan and performing to larger and more diverse audiences in the future. The group has worked with international and private schools for many years throughout Europe, South Korea, and Japan.

To learn more about the Covenant Players' work visit http://www.covenantplayers.org/.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA
Elementary school students pay close attention to the play.

Above, Kurt Purucker interacts with students in their play called *The Good Samaritan.*

THOMAS A. MANGLONA

THOMAS A. MANGLONA
Kurt Purucker portrays a child during the play accompanied by Grayson.

Cathy Purucker, right, and Maddison Grayson act as students during one of their plays at Mount Carmel School on Tuesday.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

If Putin keeps going…

Vladimir Putin's invasion and annexation of Crimea was highly objectionable by itself, but it raised even worse possibilities. What if it was merely the opening move in a sustained effort to bring areas that were part of the Soviet Union back under Moscow's control?

The danger gained new urgency over the weekend as protesters waving Russian flags occupied government buildings in the eastern Ukrainian cities of Donetsk, Kharkiv and Luhansk, demanding a referendum on joining Russia and asking Putin to send troops. Ukrainian President Oleksandr Turchynov said the takeovers were a Russian operation to "topple Ukrainian authorities, disrupt the elections and to tear our country apart."

If Putin intends to grab another chunk of Ukraine, it would be hard to stop him. NATO commander Gen. Philip Breedlove said last week that the Russian forces massed next door could move in on short notice and carry out that mission in a matter of days. The brutal fact of life is that neither NATO nor the United States has made a commitment to respond militarily to an attack on Ukraine, and they probably won't make one now.

But if Putin assumes he can act with impunity against a neighbor in the name of protecting Russian speakers, he should keep a couple of equally stark realities in mind. The first is that Washington has ways of making him regret such actions even without dispatching ground or air forces for combat. The second is that the line excluding Ukraine from NATO's protection emphatically includes those Baltic states.

Some people in the Kremlin may recall that when the Red Army rolled into Afghanistan in 1979, Washington didn't send in the Marines. Instead, the CIA provided help in the form of weapons, communications gear, medicine and money to the insurgents—which helped turn Moscow's easy conquest into a nasty war that eventually drove the Soviets out.

What the U.S. did for those insurgents, it can also do for the rebels who would doubtless resist the Russian invaders in Ukraine. Putin should be under no illusions that he would be allowed to enjoy his victory or tailor the ensuing fight to suit his convenience. How do you say "roadside bomb" in Russian?

As for the Baltic states, he might want to reread Article 5 of NATO's founding document, which declares: "The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all."

In other words, Russia is no more free to invade Estonia than it is to invade Poland or Spain or the United States. A robust military response would be the only appropriate answer.

It doesn't matter that the Baltics used to be part of the Soviet Union. It doesn't matter that significant numbers of their residents speak Russian. All that matters is that these nations are now full members of the Western military alliance. Putin would be making a gross mistake if he thinks NATO's failure to protect a non-member means it would decline to protect a member.

The security and sovereignty of NATO members are not negotiable. The clearer Western publics and their leaders are on that point, the less likely Putin will be to test it.

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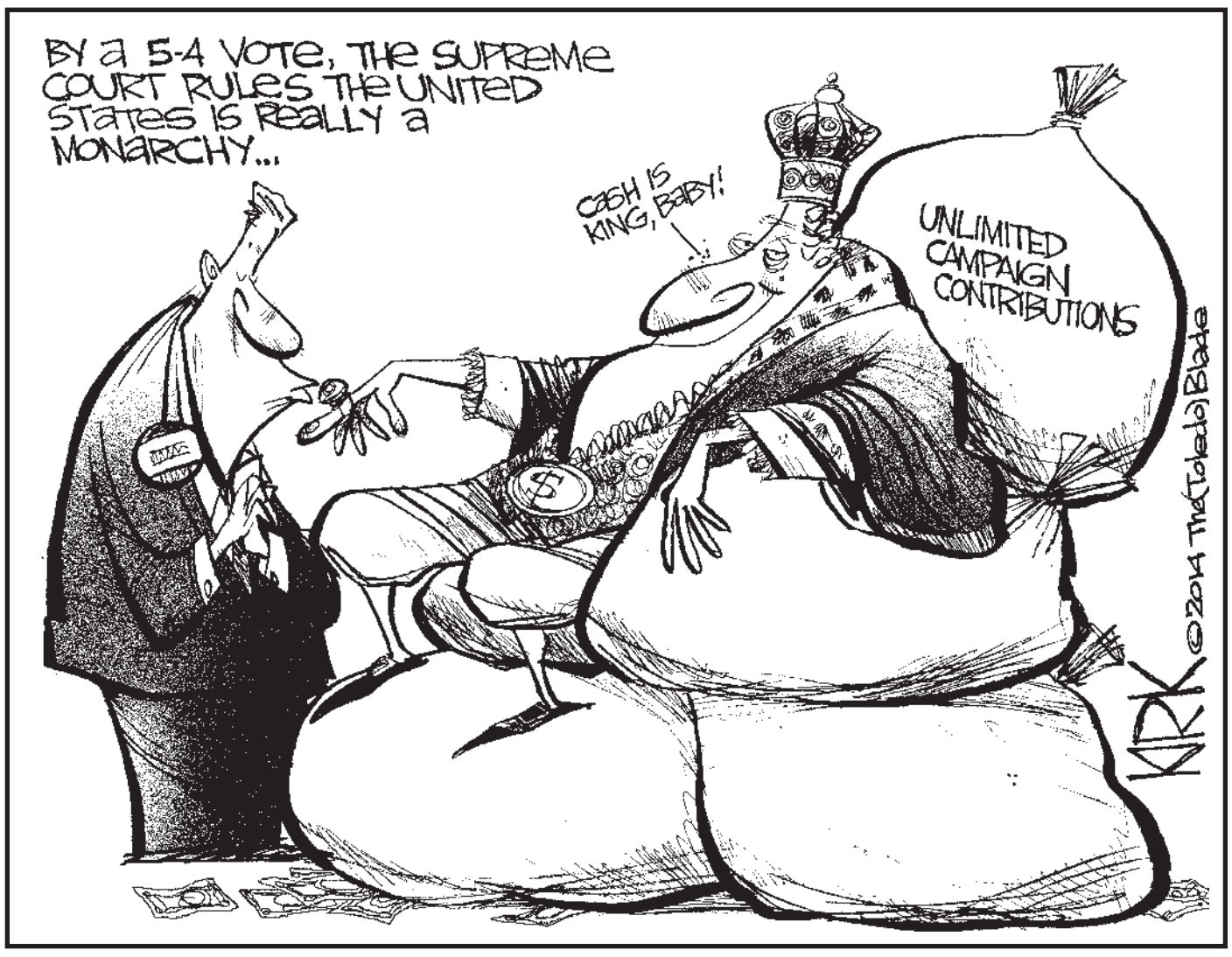
BY a 5-4 VOTE, THE SUPREME COURT RULES THE UNITED STATES IS REALLY a MONARCHY...
CASH IS KING, BABY!
UNLIMITED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS
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March to Jerusalem

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

OK, let me finish off NCAA's March Madness. The Badgers of Wisconsin went against the Wildcats of Kentucky, the Huskies of UConn, and top seeded Gators of Florida on the men's side with the Huskies and the Wildcats at the championship. UConn went against Stanford and Notre Dame v. Maryland in the women's final four, with the UConn and Notre Dame at the finals. UConn dogs prevailed against the Kentucky cats. Meanwhile the much-anticipated contest of two undefeated women's teams came when the Fighting Irish faced the Huskies but with the Huskies at an emotional advantage, this year is UConn1 of both gender.

International football (soccer in Texas) dominates CCTV international sports reporting. NBA is carried but usually in conjunction with CBA. The PGA with fading Tiger, and tennis with China's Li Na who has yet to make it past Serena Williams, also make the news. But NCAA football and basketball are hardly mentioned, and American pro gridiron, for all its gore, does not make the sports scene at all.

Though we kept an eye on March madness, it is the marches in the name of democracy that got our attention. *Demos cratos,* Greece's people's rule ideationally and cognitively through speech and the word before behavior (Socrates took the hemlock in principle) is what got us wondering whether we are back to people's power rather than abstract people's rule.

U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled that laws limiting campaign contributions (money is considered a form of expression and is protected as freedom of speech) unconstitutionally limits that freedom. The Koch brothers, major investors in Canada's tar sands headed to Houston, just got a favorable ruling as representative American democracy is reported on the pocket books of the wealthy. That got my 85-year-old friend from Houston, erstwhile a corporate VP for Gulf Oil, out to protest with breath and body the Keystone XL pipeline decision that the White House will soon decide after State reported that the pipeline poses no threat. (Oil interest paid for the research and report.)

Ukraine's rapid disintegration and Russia's reclaiming of Crimea got Putin and Russia off the good graces of NATO, the EU and the US of A. Never mind that the duly elected President of Ukraine was ran off the country with the burning of Hrushevskoho Street in downtown Kiev through the protest movement called EuroMaidan, and that 96 percent of Crimean residents democratically voted through a referendum to align back with Russia. Democracy is now the say-so of elite forces whose allegiance is unmistakably on the bottom line of oil, gas, and tar profits, fossil fuel rich Russia included.

Fracking, a method of extracting tar from sand, widely protested in the U.S. not too long ago, has suddenly found favor in the eyes of traders who wants to fill up the gap that Russian fossil fuel might leave empty should it be withdrawn from the European market. I do not think it will, but it affirms again our conviction that the wars of humanity fought since the Kaiser's rights to the oil fields of the old Ottoman Empire was curtailed. Who controls the spigot that fuels modern industrial power rules.

Taiwan students suddenly mounted determined protest against a trade agreement that is a win-win situation with the business community, but a symbol of closer ties with Beijing, anathema to the independence movement of Taiwan that wants old Formosa separate from the mainland. Taipei is redefining people's rule by law to people's power on the strength of protests. Ironically, the KMT that was the party of nationalists against Mao's flash-in-the-pan communism finds itself at loggerheads with the hotheads of Taiwan's independence.

Marches to depose the constitutionally elected government of Thailand continues as southern Thais reveal the regional ethnic differences between groups that make up old Siam. Democracy as the rule of constitutional law is being shunned by the well-off and the well-to-do of old Bangkok for a chosen people's council.

It was "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" that Abe Lincoln articulated, enshrined not only in the Lincoln Memorial at the Washington Mall in D.C. but in every textbook around the world. It took another century before the mandated "separate but equal" rule that followed the Civil War was revealed to be just a shade of the old racial prejudice that sustained slavery.

The passing of the Civil Rights Act shortly before I first came to the United States showed that the mere passing of a law would not change longstanding practices of racial discrimination. It didn't. It still hasn't. A good segment of American society has yet to accept "black" Barrack Obama in the White House, never mind that his father was Kenyan of clan leadership pedigree and his mother was an English-German-Swiss-Scot-Irish-Welsh and a shade Mongolian white lady from Kansas. Racial discrimination is alive and well in the "home of the brave and land of the free."

The imagery among kindred Christians this Sunday is the march to Jerusalem, understood now to be an individual's decision to confront the pillars of power. It was an intentional march, and he evidently was not ignorant of the consequences. Where goeth thou with thine march, pilgrim?

Finatton Paluman Apu

Diariu, dispues de taloa`ne man-bisisita dos paluman apu. Teñga tumunog gi tatten guma` ya sige umeboka gi hilu` cha`guan. Ayu `nai gumupu chagu` gi lemlem tautau. Kase para i lugat niha sino fina` troñku `nai man-deskakansa dispues de minachom atdau.

Gi la-pupueñge hu huñgog katen pajaru (chuñge`) gi chagu` na mapagahes. Kase biradan i tasi ayu na inetnon. Otru grupu lokue` sige man-gupu tatte gi lugat niha. Naturat na otnamenton mapagahes ni mas muna` gatbu i lañget.

Mafattu gi hinasoghu i tatkilu` na mapagahes `nai man-gugupu i chinge`. Tat tiha lili`e papa` yan halom gi tanu`. Chagu` yan klaru fan ataña gi todu gaige gi san-me`na.

Kumu mohon siña tana`e papan niha lokue` i man-ma`gasta maseha pot para u fan eyag manman-atan haf` gaige gi me`nan niha gi asuntun linahyan siha, kase ti sen megai problemata na tiempu. Lau puru me`nan guieñg niha ni mantai sustansia siha na asuntu man-mapetsisige. Nuebu na ulu ni masaguaniye edukasion kolehu ta nesessita pa`gu.

Siha mauleg i pajaru sa` man-hanau man-deskansa. Gatdunyu` guine gi siyan tufai. Masyu` matompu` gi aplacha` na sisonyan ma-utut sueddon man-ritirau, guaguan na insurance hinemlu`, kumahulu` apas hospitat (deductible) yan subidan apas amot. Gigon kume mauleg dididi` siñienteghu ha gu`adeñgyu` i apas kandet yan otru siha obligasion. I sueddu sumasaga ha` mientras i gastu siha sige mana` fan pagpag kuetis hulu` gi mapagahes. Dios mihu!

Finu` atpahon: Na lachagu` fan atanmu ke me`nan guieñg-mu.

Hinanau tenda

Deste ke man-ma-utot sueddon mame ni man-ritirau, umeyagyu` man-atan fina` baratura gi maseha manu na tenda.

Esta hu dimemoria manu` na kahun ais `nai gaige i man-guaguan siha na katne yan fros na fina` totche. Hu fana`gue matahu bumirague` ensegidas `an mattuyu` guihe na bandan tenda.

Fuetsau na tiempu un` rebaha kontodu haf` hagas pinayonmu. Deste guaguan na katnen guaka (steak) humanau guatuyu` gi dadalag guaka yan otru siha man-baratu na fina` kustrafas. Dios mihu!

Diberas sen makat unna` amotsa-yu` pan yan haf` na fina` totche. Pa`gu, hu hahakot gigon maplanta pot no bai` fan hassu ti man-na`magof na fina` hapbla. Tatnai sisida para ta mapanag ni satten para man-aflitu. Hu hala ensegidas ya hu tutuhon sumumuke pachothu.

Petmanente na ritirau

Buente pot hagas payun-yu` macho`chu` na sumen makat hu aksepta na ritirau-yu`, petmanente. Mauleg na hu petsisige ha` mañgge` guine na patte gi gaseta pot tane`.

Entalu` manaitai ni mas man-añgogkuyon na gaseta siha entalu America, Japon yan Asia, yan estudiau na materiat siha ginen sentron estudion sustansiau siha na asuntu, diariu hu petsige. Tinatiye este ni kabales na inanalisa gi haf` tinaitai-hu pot para bai` komprende i asuntu.

Yangin te`ug, pues hu tutuhon dumeskuattisa parehu yan komplikau na konseptu. Debi finenina bai` komprende antes de u soda` sagaña gi puntan kalulot-hu para este na pahina gi gaseta. Diariu-yu` man-estudia kontodu haf` gaige gi biblia deste siñko ni mas man-afamau na leblu, pisun Santa Biblia.

Mauleg na etsisiun mamula` asuntu ginen usun kabesa gi man-tuge` `sino materiat ginen i biblia ni adumididi` kineni` hau guatu gi tanu` kinemprende, yinease`, integredat, espirituat, yan hinimidde.

`Nai esta kada ratu-yu` mapañgun "saina" yan "pop", ileghu na`e i manhoben ni inyun niha ya un` seha dibuenamente antes de un` malapbla sin presisu. Esta hu aksepta estau-hu kumu ritirau.

■■■

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Magahet lokue` na esta ti parehu haf` gaige gi hinassota yan koduta. Siña ha` memetgot trabiha hinassomu tat kumu fuetsan usun machete yan kuha gi gualu`. Gigon un` hala i machete ya kume sulun 'sino kume falagnos i kuha gi kanaimu, maulegña un` eskusa hau gumimen hanom ke un` disgrasiau. Tatnai sisida un` hale` dedigomu mismu. De dios mihu!

■■■

I chetnot daibites (mafanana`an Type Two) sumen makat piot `nai inadite i malañgu. Gigon matai reñihioña, ha tutuhon mana` gasgas haga`ña gi makinan daialasis tres biahe gi semana.

Ti para `an guaha otru seriosu na chenot tat kumu bandan korason sa` mas hinegse i malañgu makat na fina`pos gi ha`aniña. I usun makinan mañgulan haga` nina`e malañgu kase siñko años antes de u tutuhon mas kritikat chenotña.

I korason siempre u inaminasa (ni makinan daialasis) `nai sige ha` adumididi` tumai fuetsa estake dumeskansa petmanente i malañgu. Haf` taimanu tuñgo`hu? Mañetbe-yu` malañgu mina hu tuñgu` finapos hinanau daibites. Makat gi katkuet manera.

■■■

Debi i hospitat u petsige estudiun chetnot korason yan daibites. Estague` i dos kumokone` tautau-ta dispues de 45 años na idat. Kuestion: Kau gaige este gi haga` pat lamayot patte gi modun linala`ta? Estague` na kuestion debi uma-oppe gi papa` ayu na estudiu.

Progress, Rwandan style

KIGALI, Rwanda—Twenty years ago, the state of Rwanda set about trying to hack itself out of existence. Starting on April 7, 1994, Hutu extremists, in a premeditated 100-day campaign, systematically butchered close to 1 million Tutsis—three-quarters of all those in the country—as well as moderate Hutus, driving countless more into exile.

Yet two decades later, Rwanda is very much alive; indeed, in many respects, it's thriving. But it remains a confounding place.

Visit the country today and you find a remarkably peaceful and well-ordered land. Hutus and Tutsis—including former genocidaires and the families of their victims—live side by side in villages throughout the countryside. Personal crime is virtually unheard of, as is trash; plastic bags were banned in 2006. Under the savvy, technocratic leadership of President Paul Kagame, who has led the tiny, landlocked country since toppling the genocidal Hutu regime, Rwanda's economy has exploded: GDP has shot up at an average rate of 8 percent over the last five years (although it started from a low base).

Thanks in large part to smart governance, more than 1 million Rwandans have been lifted out of poverty since 2006. Child mortality has dropped 70 percent, and malaria-related deaths have plummeted more than 85 percent since 2005, though it helps that health care is universal.

Last year, the World Bank ranked Rwanda as the second-best place in Africa to do business. Transparency International counts it the second least-corrupt nation on the continent, and last week the consulting firm A.T. Kearney ranked it as the most attractive African market in its first African Retail Development Index. Rwanda's first international bond issue, last April, did remarkably well. Meanwhile, 92 percent of children attend primary school, and Rwanda's parliament has a higher share of women—64 percent—than any other legislature in the world.

Yet this narrative of dramatic progress sits alongside another, darker story. In recent years, the charge sheet against Kagame has become alarmingly long and increasingly difficult to ignore. Though he still has many fans at home and abroad, including Tony Blair, Bill Clinton, Bill Gates and Clare Short (Britain's former minister for international development, who once called him "such a sweetie"), dissent is growing. Rwandan journalists complain of frequent harassment, and last year Kigali's treatment of the media earned the country a "not free" ranking from Freedom House.

Meanwhile, Kagame has banned some political parties, won his last two elections by eyebrow-raising margins (more than 90 percent in both 2003 and 2010) and refuses to commit to stepping down when his second term ends in 2017, though the constitution requires it.

Talking about ethnicity in Rwanda has been banned, arguably to prevent divisions and promote a post-racial society ("We are all Rwandans now," as the saying goes). But many Rwandans complain that the best government jobs and opportunities go overwhelmingly to Tutsis, who make up only about 14 percent of the population. Although Kagame's Cabinet is mixed, for example, most of the top ministries are run by Tutsis. Worse, some of the president's most vocal opponents have started turning up dead under mysterious circumstances.

Even the U.S., Kagame's most stalwart ally, finally seems to be losing patience. After years of unflinching support, in December 2012 President Obama intervened and personally told Kagame to stop meddling in neighboring Congo's seemingly endless civil war.

Such carping drives Kagame's many supporters, and the president himself, crazy. As he told me in a recent interview, he resents what he sees as foreigners' demands that the country conform to their own image, "without considering Rwanda's context."

"Who are they to define us?" he asks.

Kagame's frustration is easy to understand. For one thing, Rwanda in 1994 was so devastated, fragile and bitterly divided that an immediate turn to multi-party democracy could have tipped it back into chaos.

For another, despite the criticisms, Kagame's accomplishments remain real, and they are vast. A man who grew up in Tutsi refugee camps across the border in Uganda has shown uncommon forbearance to many of his former persecutors; tens of thousands of Hutu genocidaires have been pardoned as part of the country's reconciliation process. The president is obsessively hardworking and generally thought to be uncorrupt. And he has created a fiercely efficient and effective government, all in the face of mind-boggling odds.

To add further insult, many of the foreign capitals that criticize Kagame today were either complicit or indifferent during the bloodletting 20 years ago. "Some members of the international community were involved with (the genocide) and the failure to stop it," he told me. "And they have failed to help manage the aftermath."

That criticism may be true, though Rwanda has been given billions in foreign aid dollars over the years. But in a key sense, it misses the point. If this consummate technocrat is ever to fully realize his goals for Rwanda, he may find himself forced to liberalize its politics, not because anyone tells him he has to but because economic logic demands it.

After all, Kagame has promised that Rwanda will be a middle-income country by 2020, a hugely ambitious goal for a nation whose per-capita GDP was just $644 in 2012. Kagame likes to list Singapore, the world's poster child for authoritarian capitalism, as his model. But another nation Kagame occasionally cites—South Korea—may prove more relevant to Rwanda's future.

Like Rwanda, South Korea started at the bottom. In the mid-1950s, it too was war-torn and poorer than much of sub-Saharan Africa (it was even poorer than communist North Korea). And like Rwanda, it is geographically isolated and has few natural resources. But over the last half a century, South Korea's economy has grown faster for longer than almost any other nation in history. And while its initial boom did begin under a dictatorship, the country only managed to reach and sustain its current, high level of development thanks to the advent of real democracy in 1987. Without its open, freewheeling political system, South Korea would never have been able to climb the upper rungs of the ladder and achieve its enviable wealth.

That's because command or commodity-based economies featuring highly personalized leadership can get only so far before they hit their limits. After all, even the wisest of wise men has his blind spots and needs a fully free media to point them out. To really bloom in today's global markets, moreover, states—especially resource-poor ones—must build a knowledge economy. That requires relentless innovation, which in turn requires creativity, unrestricted access to information and the ability to speak one's mind. All of those things are very hard to accomplish in a top-down political system that limits open debate.

Kagame is smart enough to know this; indeed, he suggested as much in our conversation. The most interesting question now, and the key to whether Rwanda ever reaches its great potential, is whether he also has the character and wisdom to act on that knowledge and to allow his nation the liberty that development demands.

By JONATHAN TEPPERMAN
Los Angeles Times

Jonathan Tepperman is managing editor of Foreign Affairs. *He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's about time

I read in the *Saipan Tribune* that Northern Marianas College will be offering a Bachelor of Business degree, and upgrading its accreditation status to the Senior WASC Commission, two actions that we have been striving for through the years. It's about time. We have been pushing for a Bachelor in Business program when I joined the NMC faculty in 2000 on Rota and since moving to NMC Saipan in 2002. It has been 14 years in the making and maybe we will finally get what the CNMI needs to keep our superb students on island, instead of losing them to stateside universities and eventually mainland jobs. We must take care of our own here at home, and these are major steps in that direction.

Dr. John Griffin
Hagatna, Guam

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°

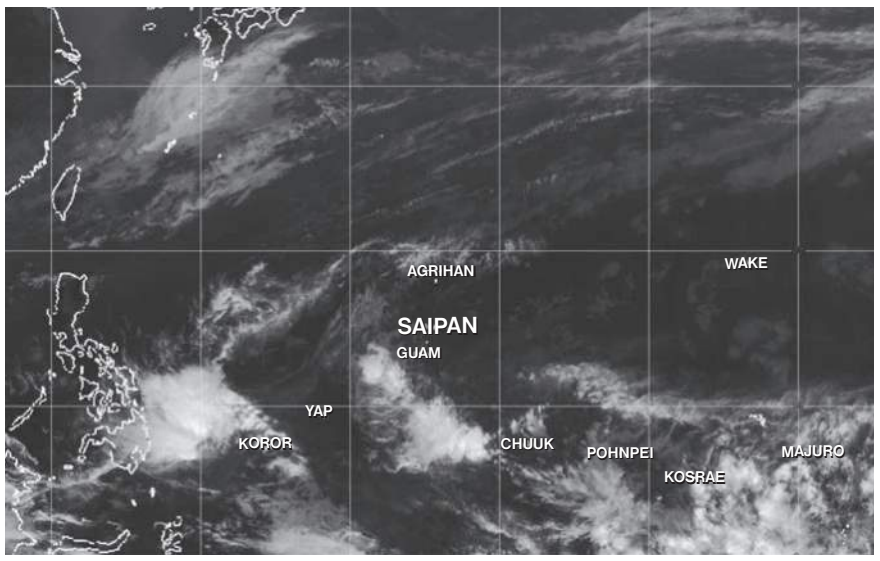
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲89	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼78
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲71	▼62
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲68	▼49
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼69
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼67
London	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼45
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼59
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼80
Melbourne	Rain	▲67	▼57
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼70
New York	Sunny	▲64	▼51
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼42
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼44
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼51
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼48
Salem	Sunny	▲65	▼40
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼50
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼48
Tokyo	Sunny	▲61	▼43
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲71	▼53

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression Peipah (05W) is centered 295 miles west-northwest of Koror near 8N130E moving northwest at 3 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring west of Koror west of a line from 12N131E to 7N137E. For additional information, see warnings issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A shear line extends southwestward from near 25N170E to beyond 130E at 15N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 200 miles northwest of this boundary east of 19N145E. A near-equatorial trough extends southeastward from Tropical Depression Peipah to end at EQ153E. Scattered showers are found south of Koror south of a line from 4N136E to 4N139E to EQ143E and between Yap and Guam within 150 miles of a line from 13N140E to 7N149E. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Pohnpei within 175 miles of a line from 5N156E to 1N160E and over Kosrae Tarawa and Butaritari atolls between the equator and 7N from 163E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:51 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:55 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
5:06 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
11:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:21 PM	2:22 AM
Friday	3:09 PM	3:02 AM
Saturday	3:57 PM	3:42 AM
Sunday	4:47 PM	4:21 AM
Monday	5:37 PM	5:02 AM

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	6:55pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	7:45pm	8:35pm	2, 6
UA5078	8:10pm	9:00pm	3

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	5:35pm	6:10pm	2, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	6:40pm	7:15pm	2, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11: 05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	5:35pm	7:15pm	2, 6 via Rota
UA5077	6:50pm	7:40pm	3

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	6:55pm	7:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	8:00pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:45am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5039	9:55am	6:25pm	7 via Guam
UA190/5038	9:55am	7:15pm	6 via Rota-Guam
UA190/5077	9:55am	7:40pm	3 via Guam
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA184/5038	10:25pm	7:15pm+1	1 via Rota-Guam
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/5038	11:30pm	7:15pm+1	5 via Rota-Guam

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Business

IMF: World economy is stronger but faces threats

WASHINGTON (AP)—The global economy is strengthening but faces threats from super-low inflation and outflows of capital from emerging economies, the International Monetary Fund warned Tuesday.

The lending organization expects the global economy to grow 3.6 percent this year and 3.9 percent in 2015, up from 3 percent last year. Those figures are just one-tenth of a percentage point below the IMF's previous forecasts in January.

The acceleration is being driven mostly by strong growth in advanced economies, including the United States and the United Kingdom, and a modest recovery in the 18 nations that use the euro currency.

By contrast, developing nations, particularly Russia, Brazil and South Africa, are now expected to grow much more slowly than the IMF forecast three months ago. Russia's economy will likely suffer as a result of its fight with the U.S. and Europe over the Ukraine. Others face high interest rates, which are intended to fight inflation but could slow growth.

The IMF, in its World Economic Outlook report, sharply upgraded its growth forecasts for the U.K., Germany and Spain. It expects the eurozone to grow 1.2 percent in 2014 and 1.5 percent in 2015 after shrinking 0.5 percent last year. Both estimates are one-tenth of a percentage point higher than the IMF's January forecasts.

The IMF made no changes to its forecasts for U.S. growth, which it estimates at 2.8 percent this year and 3 percent in 2015.

"The recovery ... is becoming not only stronger but broader," Olivier Blanchard, the IMF's chief economist, said at a news conference Tuesday.

The U.S. and European economies are benefiting from smaller government spending cuts and tax increases, Blanchard said. Banks are improving their finances. And investors are increasingly willing to buy European government debt.

Japan, however, is forecast to expand just 1.4 percent next year, down from the IMF's previous projection of 1.7 percent, and just 1 percent in 2015. Higher sales taxes are expected to weigh on growth.

Growth in China, the world's second-largest economy, is expected to continue its slowdown from its double-digit pace of a few years ago. That will have repercussions for many nations that export raw materials and parts to Chinese factories. China is projected to expand 7.5 percent in 2014 and 7.3 percent in 2015, down from 7.7 percent last year.

The 188-nation IMF and its sister organization, the World Bank, will hold their spring meetings in Washington this weekend. Finance ministers and central bank governors from the Group of 20 leading economies will meet Thursday.

Delta attendants to switch to phablet for in-flight customer service, manuals

ATLANTA—Delta Air Lines this fall will equip more than 20,000 flight attendants with handheld Nokia Lumia 1520 phablets, which will serve as their on-board manual and in-flight sales device as well as a platform for future, more personalized in-flight customer service. The Lumia 1520 features a larger format, 6-inch screen and will replace the smaller Lumia 820 already in the hands of Delta on-board professionals.

"Delta continues to invest in the latest tools and resources for our flight attendants to provide exceptional service to our 165 million annual customers," said Joanne Smith, senior vice president – In-Flight Service. "These state-of-the-art devices represent yet another example of the many technology innovations we're developing, and will be essential as Delta continues to further personalize the on board experience."

Providing electronic access to the more than 500 page, five pound On-Board Manual carried by every flight attendant is expected to save more than $1 million annually in reduced fuel and printing costs while providing on board professionals a more intuitive way to access essential information.

In addition to its functionality as an in-flight sales device and replacement for the on-board manual, the Nokia Lumia 1520 phablet, running Windows Phone 8.1, will, as it develops, enable flight attendants to take customer meal orders, receive detailed information about their flight and provide information for personalized service, including customers' frequent flyer status and potential need for special services during flight.

"The phablet is a great foundation for future software applications that, in time, will allow our flight attendants to readily access customer preferences, previous travel experiences with Delta and worldwide connectivity to the company, enabling them to provide the more tailored experience many customers have come to expect," said Theresa Wise, senior vice president and chief information officer.

Devices will be distributed starting in October with all flight attendants receiving the device by the end of the year. The solution was developed jointly by Microsoft, Avanade, Nokia, and AT&T and is the latest in a number of employee and customer-facing technology innovations Delta has made in recent years. Last September, Delta announced its pilots would receive Surface 2 tablets to be used initially as electronic flight bags and be developed into a multi-functional device that can be integrated across the airline operation.

Delta Air Lines serves nearly 165 million customers each year. ***(Delta Air Lines)***

PRNEWSFOTO/DELTA AIR LINES

Delta flight attendants will soon use Nokia Lumia 1520 devices on board.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Scant relief: Summer gas price to dip a penny

NEW YORK (AP)—Drivers will get the slightest of breaks on gasoline prices this summer, according to the Energy Department. The national average price is forecast to fall—by just one cent—to $3.57 a gallon between April and September, the months when Americans do most of their driving. Still, that would be the lowest average summer price since 2010. For the year, the department's Energy Information Administration expects gasoline to average $3.45 a gallon, down from $3.51 last year and also the lowest since 2010.

Gov't: GM missed deadline for faulty switch data

DETROIT (AP)—A government safety agency is fining General Motors $7,000 a day, saying the company failed to fully respond to its requests for information about a faulty ignition switch by an April 3 deadline. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said in a letter to GM on Tuesday that the company already owes $28,000 in fines, and they will accrue at $7,000 per day until it provides all the requested information. In February, the agency began investigating whether GM was slow to provide information and respond to problems with the switch that has been linked to at least 13 deaths. GM has admitted knowing that the switch was defective at least a decade ago, but failed to start recalling 2.6 million compact cars worldwide until this year.

United Airlines launches mobile app for Android

CHICAGO—United Airlines launched yesterday its all-new mobile application for the Android platform, offering customers innovative new features, smoother functionality and an improved touch-friendly design that enables travelers to access information more quickly and easily. The new Android app, available at united.com/mobile, follows United's redesign of the mobile app for the iOS 7 platform, which the airline launched last year.

United optimized the mobile app for KitKat, the newest Android operating system. The app, which is available for the latest generation Android devices, updates its most popular mobile tasks and introduces new features for Android users, including:

■ Travel cards for mobile boarding passes, MileagePlus cards, United Club cards and other frequently used information that customers may display on the home screen and easily swipe through.

■ Travel wallet, which holds relevant information, including upcoming reservations and flight status notifications, in a single location and enables customers to use a simple swipe and save details to the home screen.

» App offers customers new features, improved design and functionality

The new mobile app also includes all-new features unique to the Android platform, including the ability to rotate the screen, stack multiple boarding passes and utilize a new home screen widget. Similar to the iOS 7 version, the new mobile app for Android enables customers to view seat maps more clearly, purchase Travel Options and book award tickets on multiple flights.

"We are intensely focused on providing customers the digital tools that ensure they have a smoother, faster travel experience," said Scott Wilson, United's vice president of merchandising and ecommerce. "Our all-new mobile app and other digital upgrades offer travelers the information they need where and when they need it throughout their journey with United."

Last year, United introduced its mobile app for Windows Phone 8. The airline will continue to update its mobile apps regularly and expects to launch more features on the popular iOS 7 app later this year.

United has also redesigned its airport check-in kiosk screens, offering customers better functionality and more ways to ensure a smooth travel experience. This summer, the airline will begin to introduce its all-new united.com website, providing customers a simplified, cleaner and consistent user experience across the airline's customer-facing digital channels.

In 2007, United became the first U.S. airline to introduce mobile boarding passes, and it is the first U.S. carrier to offer mobile boarding at all of the domestic airports it serves. United currently offers mobile boarding at 55 international airports, more than any other U.S.-based carrier.

For more information, visit united.com or follow United on Twitter and Facebook. ***(United Airlines)***

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Bissel Zing Canister Vacuum Cleaner **$75.95**

Craftsman Evolv 12amp Circular Saw **$69.95**

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Igloo Island Breeze 28 Quart Cooler **$26.95**

GPX Clock Radio with Dual Alarm **$14.95**

Northwest Territory Electric Air Pump **$15.95**

Hefty Clear 66 Quart Storage Solutions **$14.95**

Hefty Clear 34 Quart Storage Solutions **$12.95**

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Nation

US will cut deployed nuke missile force by 50

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. will keep its current force of 450 land-based nuclear missiles but remove 50 from their launch silos as part of a plan to bring the U.S. into compliance with a 2011 U.S.-Russia arms control treaty, the Pentagon said Tuesday.

The resulting launch-ready total of 400 Minuteman 3 intercontinental ballistic missiles would be the lowest deployed ICBM total since the early 1960s.

The decisions come after a strong push by members of Congress from the states that host missile bases—North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana—to not eliminate any of the silos from which the missiles would be launched. Fifty silos will be kept in "warm" status— empty of missiles but capable of returning to active use.

Sen. John Tester, a Montana Democrat, called the Pentagon's announcement "a big win for our nation's security and for Malmstrom Air Force Base," home of the 341st Missile Wing with 150 Minuteman 3 missiles.

"ICBMs are the most cost-effective nuclear deterrent, and keeping silos warm is a smart decision and the kind of common sense Montanans expect from their leaders," Tester said.

The decision to put 50 missiles in storage but not eliminate any of their launch silos is a departure from the practice followed throughout the 50-plus year history of intercontinental ballistic missiles. A senior defense official who briefed reporters on the plan and its rationale said the Pentagon had never before structured its ICBM force with a substantial number of missiles in standby status. The official spoke under Pentagon ground rules that did not permit her name to be used.

Hans Kristensen, an arms control expert at the Federation of American Scientists, called the administration's announcement disappointing as an apparent shift away from ICBM force reductions.

"This decision appears to have more to do with the administration surrendering to the ICBM caucus (in Congress) than with strategic considerations about national security," he said in an email exchange.

The Pentagon said it will cost $19.3 million over five years to keep the 50 launch silos and missiles in standby status. The 50 missiles will be stored at their base or, in some cases, sent to a depot for repairs or maintenance.

Keeping all 450 silos meant the Pentagon had to make steeper reductions in the Navy's sea-based nuclear force in order to comply with the New START, or Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, by 2018. The Navy will reduce the number of deployed and non-deployed submarine-launched ballistic nuclear missiles to 280 from the current 336.

The Navy has 14 Ohio-class submarines armed with missiles but only 12 will count as deployed because two will be undergoing long-term maintenance at a given time during the 10-year life of the New START treaty. The Navy is embarking on a multibillion-dollar program to build a replacement for the current fleet.

Bacon prices rise after virus kills piglets

MILWAUKEE (AP)—A virus never before seen in the U.S. has killed millions of baby pigs in less than a year, and with little known about how it spreads or how to stop it, it's threatening pork production and pushing up prices by 10 percent or more.

Scientists think porcine epidemic diarrhea, which does not infect humans or other animals, came from China, but they don't know how it got into the country or spread to 27 states since last May. The federal government is looking into how such viruses might spread, while the pork industry, wary of future outbreaks, has committed $1.7 million to research the disease.

The U.S. is both a top producer and exporter of pork, but production could decline about 7 percent this year compared to last - the biggest drop in more than 30 years, according to a recent report from Rabobank, which focuses on the food, beverage and agribusiness industries.

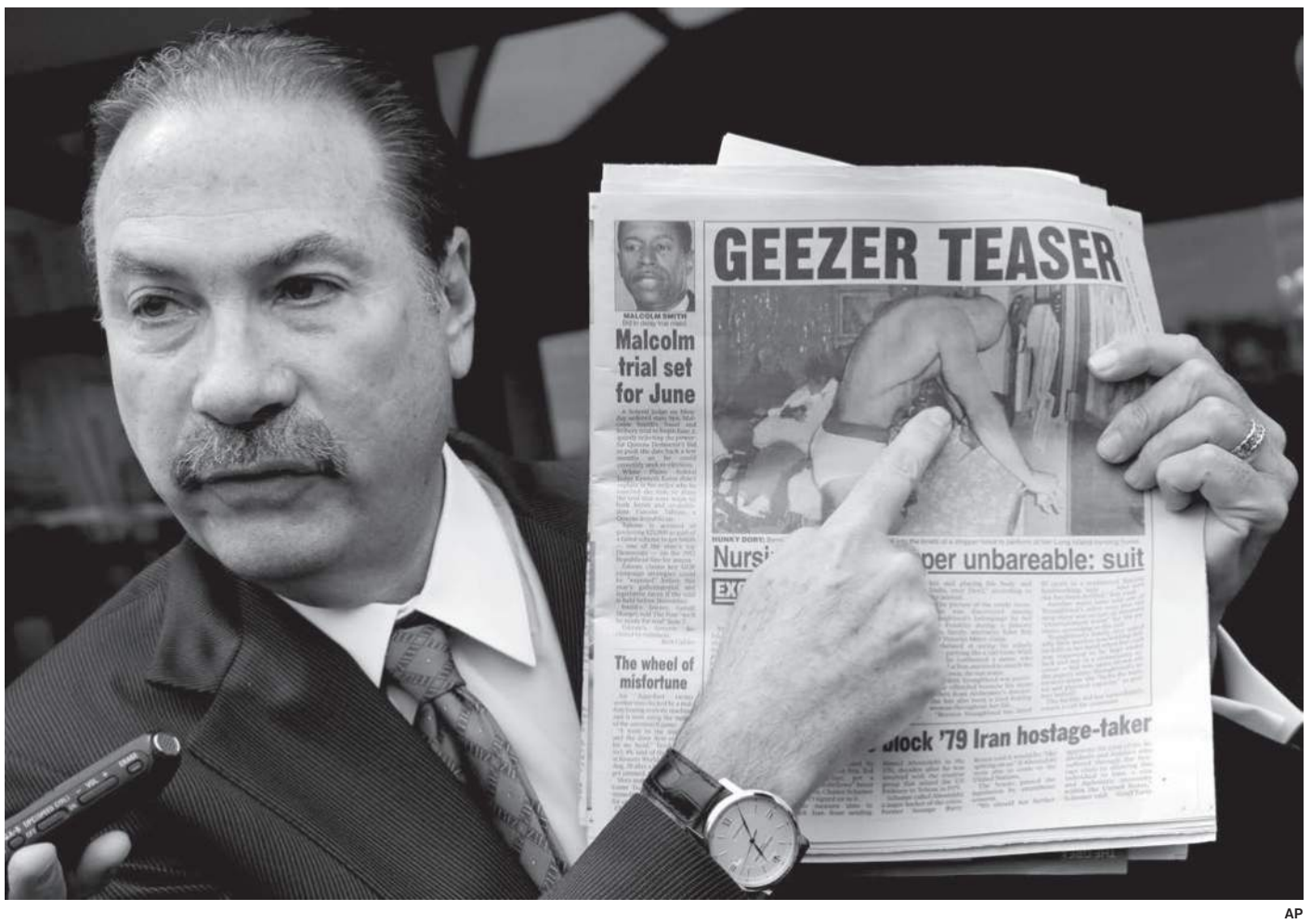
Already, prices have shot up: A pound of bacon averaged $5.46 in February, 13 percent more than a year ago, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Ham and chops have gone up too, although not as much.

Farmer and longtime veterinarian Craig Rowles did all he could to prevent PED from spreading to his farm in Iowa, the nation's top pork producer and the state hardest hit by the disease. He trained workers to spot symptoms, had them shower and change clothing before entering barns and limited deliveries and visitors.

Despite his best efforts, the deadly diarrhea attacked in November, killing 13,000 animals in a matter of weeks, most of them less than 2 weeks old. The farm produces about 150,000 pigs each year.

Estimates of how many pigs have died in the past year vary, ranging from at least 2.7 million to more than 6 million. The U.S. Department of Agriculture says the die-off has had a hand in shrinking the nation's pig herd by 3 percent to about 63 million pigs.

Lawsuit: Male stripper did show at NY nursing home



AP

Attorney Howard Fensterman, representing the East Neck Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, points to a newspaper article about the nursing home during a news conference, Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

WEST BABYLON, N.Y. (AP)—An 85-year-old nursing home patient was the victim of "disgraceful sexual perversion" when a male stripper gyrated in front of her against her will at the suburban New York facility, an attorney for the woman's family said Tuesday.

John Ray, the attorney for Bernice Youngblood and her family, displayed a picture of a man in white briefs dancing in front of the woman at East Neck Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in September 2012.

The photo, which Ray said Youngblood's son found during a visit to his mother, shows the woman putting money into the dancer's waistband.

Ray said Youngblood had been urged to participate and did so against her will. The family has filed suit against the nursing home seeking unspecified damages.

Ray said Youngblood, who herself had worked as a health aide for the elderly, had her dignity taken away when "nursing home employees subjected her to this disgraceful sexual perversion."

Youngblood, who attended the news conference in a wheelchair with some of her relatives at her side, mumbled in a barely audible voice that she felt "terrible" and "ashamed" about what happened, but did not remember details.

Howard Fensterman, an attorney representing the facility, said a 16-member resident committee had requested the September 2012 performance and the nursing home paid the $250 fee.

Fensterman said the facility's management reserves the right to reject a request by the residents' committee, particularly if the activity were deemed detrimental.

"But in this instance these are adults who wanted to have this activity, they requested it, they voted on it and the nursing home approved of it," he said.

Franklin Youngblood said he went to a nursing supervisor for an explanation immediately after finding the photo in his mother's bedroom drawer. The lawsuit claims the nurse attempted to grab the photo from him.

Fensterman said the girlfriend of one of Bernice Youngblood's sons had taken her to the stripper show, and not nursing home employees. Ray said Youngblood's son disputed that claim and, in any case, that does not mean Youngblood was not harmed by what she saw.

Fensterman also chided Ray for claiming that Youngblood was suffering from dementia, while at the same time noting the woman signed a power of attorney document claiming she was competent to sign it.

"Ms. Youngblood suffers from partial dementia," Ray said. "She has moments of partial lucidity."

The claims and counterclaims came during a sequence of heated news conferences outside the facility in West Babylon. Reporters and cameramen jostled in a large scrum around Fensterman and Ray when they briefly became embroiled in an argument after Ray presented his counterpart with a copy of the lawsuit complaint.

The state Health Department is investigating the incident, a spokesman said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Woman found guilty in 1996 killing of ex-husband

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—A once-prominent socialite was found guilty Tuesday in the 1996 Tucson car bomb killing of her ex-husband after spending years abroad living a lavish lifestyle across Europe. Pamela Phillips, 56, was convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder after less than three days of deliberations that began last week. She faces life in prison at her May 22 sentencing hearing. Phillips can't receive the death penalty because of her extradition from Austria, which has a treaty with the U.S. that won't allow anyone to be extradited for prosecution if they face capital punishment.

Jury convicts woman in Texas stiletto shoe killing

HOUSTON (AP)—A Houston woman was convicted of murder Tuesday for fatally stabbing her boyfriend with the 5 1/2-inch stiletto heel of her shoe, hitting him at least 25 times in the face. Prosecutors said Ana Trujillo used her high heel shoe to kill 59-year-old Alf Stefan Andersson during an argument at his Houston condominium in June. Trujillo's attorney had argued the 45-year-old woman was defending herself during an attack by Andersson, a University of Houston professor and researcher.

3 charged in Detroit mob beating of motorist

DETROIT (AP)—A teenager and two men were charged Tuesday in the brutal beating of a suburban Detroit man after he accidentally hit a child who stepped off the curb into the path of his truck. Police, meanwhile, credited a nurse with saving the life of driver Steve Utash by stepping between him and the half-dozen or more men who punched and kicked him after the April 2 accident on the northeast side of Detroit. The incident left the 54-year-old Utash, a tree-trimmer from Macomb County's Clinton Township, with severe head injuries. He is in a medically induced coma.

Asia

More underwater pings heard in hunt for plane

PERTH, Australia (AP)—A ship searching for the missing Malaysian jet has detected two more underwater signals, raising hopes the wreckage of the plane will soon be found, the Australian official in charge of the search said Wednesday.

Angus Houston, the head of a joint agency coordinating the search for the missing plane in the southern Indian Ocean, said that the Australian navy's Ocean Shield picked up the two signals in a sweep on Tuesday, and that analysis of two sounds detected in the same area last week showed they were consistent with a plane's black boxes.

"I'm now optimistic that we will find the aircraft, or what is left of the aircraft, in the not too distant future—but we haven't found it yet, because this is a very challenging business," Houston said at a news conference in Perth, the hub for the search operation.

The Ocean Shield first detected underwater sounds on Saturday before losing them, but managed to pick up signals again on Tuesday, Houston said. The ship is equipped with a U.S. Navy towed pinger locator that is designed to detect signals from a plane's two black boxes—the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder.

An analysis of the signals detected Saturday determined they were stable, distinct and clear sounds that pulsed consistently—indicating they were coming from a plane's black box, Houston said.

"(The analysts) therefore assess that the transmission was not of natural origin and was likely sourced from specific electronic equipment," Houston said. "They believe the signals to be consistent with the specification and description of a flight data recorder."

Despite the promising evidence, Houston warned that he could not yet definitely say searchers had pinpointed Flight 370's crash site.

"I think that we're looking in the right area, but I'm not prepared to say—to confirm—anything until such time as somebody lays eyes on the wreckage," he said.

Finding the black boxes quickly is a matter of urgency, because their locator beacons have a battery life of only about a month - and Tuesday marked exactly one month since the plane vanished. Once the beacons blink off, locating the black boxes in such deep water would be an immensely difficult, if not impossible, task.

Houston acknowledged that they were running out of time, and noted that the signals picked up on Tuesday were weaker and briefer than the ones heard over the weekend. The two signals picked up on Saturday lasted two hours and 20 minutes and 13 minutes, respectively; the sounds heard Tuesday lasted just 5 and a half minutes and 7 minutes.

"So we need to, as we say in Australia, `make hay while the sun shines,'" Houston said.

Picking up the sound again is crucial to narrowing the search area so a small submarine can be deployed to chart a potential debris field on the seafloor, which is about 4,500 meters (14,800 feet) deep. If the autonomous sub was used now with the sparse data collected so far, covering all the potential places from which the pings might have come would take days, if not weeks. It takes the sub six times longer to cover the same area than it does the towed pinger, Houston said.

"The better Ocean Shield can define the area, the easier it will be for the autonomous underwater vehicle to subsequently search for aircraft wreckage," Houston said.

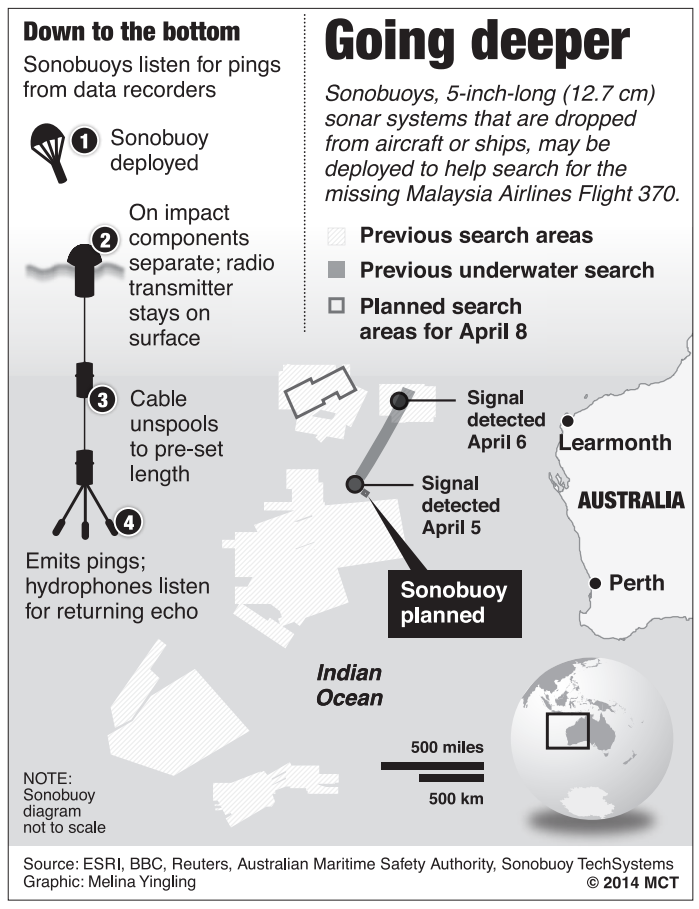
Houston said a decision had not yet been made on how long searchers would to wait after the final sound was heard before the sub was deployed, saying only that time was "not far away." He smiled but did not reply when asked if the sub would be deployed on Wednesday.

"Hopefully in a matter of days, we will be able to find something on the bottom that might confirm that this is the last resting place of MH370," he said.

Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 vanished March 8 on a trip from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing with 239 people on board, sparking one of aviation's biggest mysteries. The search has shifted from waters off of Vietnam, to the Strait of Malacca and then finally to waters in the southern Indian Ocean as data from radar and satellites was further analyzed.

But finding any wreckage in such deep water has proved to be a monumental task. In addition to the depth and remoteness of the area, search crews are also contending with layers of silt on the sea floor that can both hide any possible wreckage and distort the sounds emanating from the black boxes that may be resting there, said Royal Australian Navy commodore Peter Leavy, who is helping to lead the search.

Meanwhile, the search for debris on the ocean surface picked up intensity on Wednesday, with 15 planes and 14 ships scouring a 75,427 square kilometer (29,121 square mile) area that extends from 2,261 kilometers (1,405 miles) northwest of Perth.


Down to the bottom
Sonobuoys listen for pings from data recorders
1 Sonobuoy deployed
2 On impact components separate; radio transmitter stays on surface
3 Cable unspools to pre-set length
4 Emits pings; hydrophones listen for returning echo
Going deeper
Sonobuoys, 5-inch-long (12.7 cm) sonar systems that are dropped from aircraft or ships, may be deployed to help search for the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.
Previous search areas
Previous underwater search
Planned search areas for April 8
Signal detected April 6
Signal detected April 5
Sonobuoy planned
Learmonth
AUSTRALIA
Perth
Indian Ocean
500 miles
500 km
NOTE: Sonobuoy diagram not to scale
Source: ESRI, BBC, Reuters, Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Sonobuoy TechSystems
Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2014 MCT

Bomb hits train in southwest Pakistan, killing 16

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—A bomb ripped through a railway car parked at a station in southwestern Pakistan, killing 16 people and sending flames and smoke billowing into the air, officials said.

The explosion in the town of Sibi also wounded 35 people, said district police chief Gulam Abbas Tarar. He put the death toll at 16.

The Pakistani television stations showed images of the burning car, with flames shooting out of the windows and smoke billowing into the sky. A little-known separatist group later claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Sibi is in Baluchistan province, Pakistan's largest region. The train was going from Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan, to Rawalpindi, which is next to the capital of Islamabad. Sibi is located about 150 kilometers (90 miles) east of Quetta.

The bomb went off after it reached the Sibi station and passengers were boarding and disembarking from the cars, officials said.

Federal Minister for Railways Saad Rafiq told Geo TV that initial reports suggest a woman left explosives on the train car and then got off the train when it arrived at the station. The deputy commissioner of the district, Suhail-ur-Rehman, said it might have been concealed in someone's luggage but emphasized that authorities were still investigating.

Baluchistan has been plagued by violence from various factions for years and Pakistani troops have been battling both Baluch separatists as well as sectarian groups in the area.

Later Tuesday, a spokesman for the separatist United Baluch Liberation Army claimed responsibility for the bombing and warned of more such attacks in future. The attack was in retaliation for a military operation on Monday against the group's activists in the province, said Mureed Baluch, the spokesman.

Earlier, Rafiq, the federal minister, also said the blast could have been retribution for Monday's operation, which killed at least 30 militants.

The paramilitary Frontier Corps said they killed the militants in Khuzdar, a mountainous region southeast of the Baluch capital, during an operation targeting their hideouts. The Frontier Corps said 10 of its troops were also wounded in the operation.

Afghan presidential hopeful says runoff needed

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Afghan presidential hopeful said Tuesday that all indications are that nobody has won in the first round of voting over the weekend and a runoff must be held.

Zalmai Rassoul, a former foreign minister who is considered one of three front-runners in a field of eight candidates, also said that "massive fraud" took place in the balloting for a new leader. Hamid Karzai is constitutionally barred from a third term.

Saturday's election was largely hailed as a success after a high turnout and relatively little violence despite a Taliban threat to disrupt the vote. But there were reports of fraud, such as ballot-stuffing and government interference.

A spokesman for the election complaints commission said more than 3,000 complaints were received but only half of those were formally submitted. The others were largely telephone calls. "I can say that fraud and violations have taken place," said Nadir Mohsini.

Many have predicted that nobody would get the majority needed to win outright and a second round would need to be held. But Rassoul was the first front-runner to say it directly. His main rivals, Abdullah Abdullah, who was Karzai's main rival in the last presidential election in 2009, and Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, an academic and former World Bank official, have expressed confidence they could win in the first round.

"The data indicates that elections will go to the runoff round," Rassoul's campaign office said in an email, adding that his campaign offices had been instructed to prepare for a second round. He also claimed that "some candidates and their supporters have committed extensive fraud," although he gave no specifics in the statement.

Some candidate forecasts and partial results are expected in the coming days. Noor Mohammad Noor, a spokesman for the Independent Election Commission, said preliminary results were due April 24 and final results will be announced May 14.

Electoral officials have urged patience, saying officials continued to log complaints and tally ballots. The ballots were coming from more than 20,000 polling stations nationwide, some in extremely remote and rural areas. They were being transported to tally centers in all 34 provinces before the results reach Kabul.

PH court rules family planning law is legal

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that a family planning law is constitutional, allowing the government to provide reproductive health care services primarily to the country's poor despite strong opposition to the law from the Roman Catholic Church.

Supporters of the law cheered as court spokesman Theodore Te announced the ruling in northern Baguio city, where it was issued.

President Benigno Aquino III signed the law in December 2012 but the court imposed a temporary restraining order while it studied petitions questioning its constitutionality.

Te said the court did consider some details within the law to be unconstitutional: One provision would have punished health workers who failed or refused to support reproductive health programs, and a rule governing how the law is implemented would have defined abortifacients—drugs or devices—as only those that "primarily" induce abortion.

Opponents have 15 days to ask the court to reconsider its ruling, Te said.

Catholic leaders consider the law an attack on the church's core values and say it promotes promiscuity and destroys life. The government says it helps the poor manage the number of children they have and provides for maternal health care.

Aquino had certified the legislation as urgent, aiming to reduce maternal deaths and promote family planning in the impoverished country that has one of Asia's fastest-growing populations.

The U.N. Population Fund counts 3.4 million pregnancies in the Philippines annually; half are unintended and a third are aborted, often in clandestine and unsafe procedures. The fund says 11 women in the country die of pregnancy-related causes every day.

The law directs government health centers to provide universal and free access to nearly all contraceptives to everyone, particularly the country's poorest, which account for about a third of the country's 96 million population. Some local officials who support the church have banned free distribution of condoms and other contraceptives in their areas.

Another key feature of the law makes sexual education compulsory in public schools.

The law specifically bans abortion drugs, but it requires health workers to provide care for those who have complications from illegal abortions.

Under the law, the government will hire more village health workers who will distribute contraceptives, especially to the poor, and provide instructions on natural family planning methods approved by the church.

The government will train teachers who will provide age- and development-appropriate reproductive health education to 10- to 19-year-old youths. This will include information on protection against discrimination and sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, and women's and children's rights.

World

Queen hosts Irish president on 1st UK state visit

LONDON (AP)—Amid regal pomp at Queen Elizabeth II's Windsor Castle home, the Irish president and the British monarch have begun Ireland's first state visit to Britain with expressions of mutual affection and respect - and a shared determination to consign national hatreds to a sorrow-tinged past.

President Michael D. Higgins, Ireland's elfin head of state, was guest of honor at a royal banquet that brought together former enemies in Northern Ireland and leading politicians and celebrities of Britain and Ireland, including Judi Dench and Daniel Day-Lewis.

AP

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, left, with Irish President, Michael D. Higgins, in Windsor, west of London, Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Gathered together on one massive 160-seat table, they heard the queen and Higgins pledge to lead their nations into a new era of friendship.

Higgins' trip—on his country's first state visit to Britain since Ireland won independence nearly a century ago—underscores how much the success of Northern Ireland peacemaking has transformed wider relations between the two longtime adversaries since the 1990s, when Irish Republican Army car bombs were still detonating in London.

It comes three years after the queen, defying threats from IRA splinter groups still seeking to wreck the peace, made her own inaugural visit to the Republic of Ireland, where a British monarch last visited in 1911, when all of Ireland was still part of the United Kingdom.

As she toasted the health of the Irish nation, Elizabeth said she had loved her Irish visit and found it "even more pleasing since then that we, the Irish and British, are becoming good and dependable neighbors and better friends, finally shedding our inhibitions about seeing the best in each other."

The queen managed a rare joke as she lauded the role of Irish immigrants in Britain's public, academic and cultural life. She recalled her own surprise role in the Opening Ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics, when she performed in a film alongside James Bond star Daniel Craig—before a stuntman dressed as the monarch parachuted live into the stadium.

"It took someone of Irish descent, Danny Boyle, to get me to jump from a helicopter," she said to laughter, referring to the show's director.

More significantly, the queen criticized how Irish immigrants to Britain used to experience "discrimination and a lack of appreciation."

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Antonia Ngirmeriil

Lovingly known as "**Antonia Tetsuo (Koshiro)**"

In Her New Life, She Now Joins:

Reared Mother: †Ngertaoch Yaoch
Parents: †Bertha Ngirmeriil
†Ngirmeriil (Otosan)
Husband: †Tetsuo Koshiro
Children: †Lucia Koshiro
†Jerry Koshiro
†Christian Koshiro
†Salvador Koshiro

Her Memories will Forever Live in the Hearts of Her:

Siblings: **Setsuo** & Brenda Ngirmeriil and Family
Margie (Rurung) Rozanski and Family
Erika & Leo Migvar and Family
Merol & Lydia Ngirmeriil and Family
Auntina & Jonathan Maui and Family
Kamelius Ngirmeriil and Family
Ignatius & Anselma Ngirmeriil and Family
Judy Ngirmeriil and Family

Children: †**Lucia** Koshiro (Joey, Jay & Child, Abraham, Luzianne & Children, OJ)
†**Jerry** Koshiro (Greg, Laina Koshiro/Bernard & Child, Jadine Hockett/Benadict & Children, Jamielyn/Clayton & Children, Jasmer/Momoko & Child, Janice & Children)
Lourdes & Blokaski Ngowaki (Jordan/Jordina, Jonathan/Barbara & Children)
†**Christian** Koshiro
Esther Koshiro (Brenda & Child, Ryandra, Rico)
Linda Koshiro & Francisco Ada (Jessica, Jennifer, JB, Jlynn Cepeda, Jason Pangelinan, Annmarie/Vince Pinaula, Jonathan Ada)
†**Salvador** Koshiro (Malcom/Georgia & Child, Bertha, Bryan, Ariel, Zachery)

Reared Sons: **Patrick** & Marivic Ulechong (Isaiah, Eblai, Kay)
Ului & Grace Koshiro (Kenji, Kaiya)
Greg (Klitang) Koshiro
Jeremy Koshiro & Jenise Ridep

She will also be remembered in her new life by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren and friends at home and afar.

On Friday, April 11, 2014, her remains will be escorted from Commonwealth Health Center at 7:00am to Kristo Rai Church for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 9:00am followed immediately by Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Lunch will be served at China Town at the Family's Residence.

Kom Kmal Mesulang and Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Family

Ukraine tries to quell pro-Moscow uprisings

Power struggle continues

On April 7, pro-Russian demonstrators seized government buildings in three Ukrainian cities that border Russia. Ukraine has seized back control in just one of the cities.

Buildings seized, April 7

1. Ukraine authorities say they have seized back control of administration building from pro-Russia separatists
2. Pro-Russian protesters have seized a regional government building; declared the area a "people's republic"
3. Pro-Russian forces seized a room where weapons were stored at a regional department building

Source: ESRI, Reuters, BBC

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—Ukrainian authorities moved to quell pro-Moscow uprisings along the Russian border with mixed results Tuesday, retaking one occupied regional headquarters and watching protesters consolidate their hold on another.

In a third city, Luhansk, Ukraine's Security Service said separatists armed with explosives and other weapons were holding 60 people hostage inside the agency's local headquarters.

Those occupying the building issued a video statement saying they want a referendum on the region's status and warning that any attempt to storm the place would be met with armed force.

In the video, posted by Ukrainian media, a masked man identified the occupiers as Ukrainian veterans of the Soviet war in Afghanistan and said that if authorities try to retake the building, "Welcome to hell, then!"

The Ukrainian government and the U.S. have accused Moscow of fomenting the unrest as a pretext for another Russian military incursion like the takeover of Crimea last month. Up to 40,000 Russian troops are massed along the Ukrainian border, according to NATO.

All the cities affected by the uprisings are in Ukraine's industrial heartland in the east, which has a large population of ethnic Russians and where hostility is strong toward the government that took power in February after the ouster of Kremlin-friendly President Viktor Yanukovych.

European Union envoy Catherine Ashton said she will meet with U.S., Russian and Ukrainian foreign ministers next week to discuss the situation - the first four-way meeting since the crisis erupted.

In Washington, Secretary of State John Kerry threatened tougher economic sanctions against Moscow.

"What we see from Russia is an illegal and illegitimate effort to destabilize a sovereign state and create a contrived crisis with paid operatives across an international boundary," Kerry told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Kerry called the demonstrations in eastern Ukraine a "contrived pretext for military intervention just as we saw in Crimea."

Earlier Tuesday, Ukrainian authorities battled pro-Russian protesters and regained control over a government building in Kharkiv, the country's second-largest city, evicting the protesters and detaining dozens.

Environment

Big climate report: Warming is big risk for people

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP SCIENCE WRITER

If you think of climate change as a hazard for some far-off polar bears years from now, you're mistaken. That's the message from top climate scientists gathering in Japan this week to assess the impact of global warming.

In fact, they will say, the dangers of a warming Earth are immediate and very human.

"The polar bear is us," says Patricia Romero Lankao of the federally financed National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo., referring to the first species to be listed as threatened by global warming due to melting sea ice.

She will be among the more than 60 scientists in Japan to finish writing a massive and authoritative report on the impacts of global warming. With representatives from about 100 governments at this week's meeting of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, they'll wrap up a summary that tells world leaders how bad the problem is.

The key message from leaked drafts and interviews with the authors and other scientists: The big risks and overall effects of global warming are far more immediate and local than scientists once thought. It's not just about melting ice, threatened animals and plants. It's about the human problems of hunger, disease, drought, flooding, refugees and war, becoming worse.

The report says scientists have already observed many changes from warming, such as an increase in heat waves in North America, Europe, Africa and Asia. Severe floods, such as the one that displaced 90,000 people in Mozambique in 2008, are now more common in Africa and Australia. Europe and North America are getting more intense downpours that can be damaging. Melting ice in the Arctic is not only affecting the polar bear, but already changing the culture and livelihoods of indigenous people in northern Canada.

Past panel reports have been ignored because global warming's effects seemed too distant in time and location, says Pennsylvania State University scientist Michael Mann.

This report finds "It's not far-off in the future and it's not exotic creatures - it's us and now," says Mann, who didn't work on this latest report.

The United Nations established the climate change panel in 1988 and its work is done by three groups. One looks at the science behind global warming. The group meeting in Japan beginning Tuesday studies its impacts. And a third looks at ways to slow warming.

Its reports have reiterated what nearly every major scientific organization has said: The burning of coal, oil and gas is producing an increasing amount of heat-trapping greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide. Those gases change Earth's climate, bringing warmer temperatures and more extreme weather, and the problem is worsening.

The panel won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007, months after it issued its last report.

Since then, the impact group has been reviewing the latest research and writing 30 chapters on warming's effects and regional impacts. Those chapters haven't been officially released but were posted on a skeptical website.

The key message can be summed up in one word that the overall report uses more than 5,000 times: risk.

"Climate change really is a challenge in managing risks," says the report's chief author, Chris Field of the Carnegie Institution of Science in California. "It's very clear that we are not prepared for the kind of events we're seeing."

Already the effects of global warming are "widespread and consequential," says one part of the larger report, noting that science has compiled more evidence and done much more research since the last report in 2007.

If climate change continues, the panel's larger report predicts these harms:

■ **VIOLENCE:** For the first time, the panel is emphasizing the nuanced link between conflict and warming temperatures. Participating scientists say warming won't cause wars, but it will add a destabilizing factor that will make existing threats worse.

■ **FOOD:** Global food prices will rise between 3 and 84 percent by 2050 because of warmer temperatures and changes in rain patterns. Hotspots of hunger may emerge in cities.

■ **WATER:** About one-third of the world's population will see groundwater supplies drop by more than 10 percent by 2080, when compared with 1980 levels. For every degree of warming, more of the world will have significantly less water available.

ON THE NET
The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: http://www.ipcc.ch

■ **HEALTH:** Major increases in health problems are likely, with more illnesses and injury from heat waves and fires and more food and waterborne diseases. But the report also notes that warming's effects on health is relatively small compared with other problems, like poverty.

■ **WEALTH:** Many of the poor will get poorer. Economic growth and poverty reduction will slow down. If temperatures rise high enough, the world's overall income may start to go down, by as much as 2 percent, but that's difficult to forecast.

According to the report, risks from warming-related extreme weather, now at a moderate level, are likely to get worse with just a bit more warming. While it doesn't say climate change caused the events, the report cites droughts in northern Mexico and the south-central United States, and hurricanes such as 2012's Sandy, as illustrations of how vulnerable people are to weather extremes. It does say the deadly European heat wave in 2003 was made more likely because of global warming.

Texas Tech University climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe, who was not part of this report team, says the important nuance is how climate change interacts with other human problems: "It's interacting and exacerbating problems we already have today."

Americans urged to join race to stop water leaks

WASHINGTON—Easy-to-fix household leaks account for more than one trillion gallons of water wasted each year across the United States, equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes. In the race against water waste, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is urging people to fix household water leaks.

Water leaking from dripping faucets, showerheads and worn toilet flappers in one average American home can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry. These types of leaks are often easily correctable, in many cases requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings. Fixing household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills.

"A household can waste thousands of gallons from leaky plumbing fixtures and sprinkler systems, which is especially bad news if your community is suffering from a drought," said Nancy Stoner, Acting Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water. "Three simple steps—checking for leaks, twisting and tightening pipe connections, and replacing fixtures where needed can help people conserve water and save money on their utility bills."

Finding and fixing leaks is simple to do in three easy steps:

■ **CHECK FOR LEAKS**: Look for dripping faucets, showerheads and fixture connections. Check toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank at the back of the toilet and wait 10 minutes before flushing to see if color shows up in the bowl. If there is color, the toilet flapper likely needs to be replaced, which is an easy repair to make. Check irrigation systems and spigots too.

■ **TWIST AND TIGHTEN PIPE CONNECTIONS**: If your showerhead is dripping, make sure there is a tight connection between the showerhead and the pipe stem. It may just need a twist to tighten or some pipe tape to secure it.

■ **REPLACE THE FIXTURE IF NECESSARY:** If you're in the mood for an upgrade, look for WaterSense-labeled models, which are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform as well as or better than standard models. ***(EPA)***

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY
In Loving Memory of
†Jose Miyasaki Babauta
We, the family would like to invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 1st year death anniversary of the passage of our beloved unto eternal life.
Mass of intention is currently being offered daily at 6:00a.m. at Kristo Rai Church through Friday, April 11, 2014.
On the final day, tomorrow, April 11, 2014 breakfast will be served at the Kristo Rai Church Social Hall immediately thereafter.
Your prayers, thoughts and presence are sincerely appreciated.
Thank you, Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase
THE FAMILY

Life & Style

A monthlong celebration of poetry

April is National Poetry Month, a monthlong, national celebration of poetry established by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States. To mark the occasion, Tinian English teacher Joseph Connolly submitted the following poems for publication:

Fun With Fear

By JOSEPH B. CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in his first inauguration address in March 1933, said, "So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that THE ONLY THING WE HAVE TO FEAR IS FEAR ITSELF..." This was a radio address to millions of American listeners in the midst of the Great Depression. FDR led us out of it and through WWII with an unprecedented total of four inaugurations. A few years ago, thumbing through a medical encyclopedia looking for a description of my knee problem, I came across a page length list of classified phobic neuroses. As I read the list I started to smile but was also startled that people were actually pathologically afraid of some of these things. I resolved to write some poems poking slight fun at the FEAR ITSELF, not the poor folks who succumb to the pathological fears themselves. Here are some attempts to "lighten up" and have fun with fear.

ERGOPHOBIA - Fear of Work

Dread working before the break of day began
Not getting home till way too late at night
Pissed off about hard labor with low pay again
Gave my mind and muscles ergophobic flight

It wasn't so much all the manual labor
Squatting , bending, reaching, loading, lifting
Sometimes with a co-worker, sometimes a neighbor
Whistling kept my work ethic constantly shifting

As I got older and started to lose muscle mass
Neural synaptic activity lessened in my befuddled brain
Tiring of traffic jams and the big city hustling my ass
Put my bowels in a nine line bind with hemorrhoidal strain

So it's off to work again with all the other slobs
Takes some getting used to these full time jobs

GAMOPHOBIA - Fear of Marriage

It rapidly diminished after they wedded
When both of them lost their naked pride
And once the lovers had bathed and bedded
Husband fell sound asleep and also his bride

Again they dreamt - dread going down the aisle
Anxiety anticipating those Vegas wedding bells
Tossing bridal bouquets brought them a smile
Bachelor parties? Damn the one who always tells

Now Best Man and Bridesmaid are both very excited
Psyched picking out dresses from January to June
Families stressout when distant relatives are invited
Underneath tents meet Brother Sun, Sister Moon

So first came love, then arrived a baby carriage
Separated only by Gamophobia, fear of marriage

POGONOPHOBIA - Fear of Beards

Crickets chirp, you walk the road clean shaven
All day long till a five o'clock shadow
Appears on your face black as a raven
Your chin stubble feels like a new mown meadow

Let it grow free all hairy and grizzly
Trim that mustache so it won't strain your soup
Grow a soul patch like Dizzie Gillespie
Or a handlebar 'stache' for loopen the loop

Try Burnsides, goatees, or even lambchops
For a cool Asian look go Fu Manchu
Let it grow out till it seems like it stops
And there's no telling what scissors can do

So your facial hair is not to be feared
Stay away from mirrors - Enjoy Your Beard!

TRISKADEKAPHOBIA - Fear of Thirteen

There were that many in the cricket cage
As I watched their eggs develop
Grasshopper hybrids were now all the rage
Soon entire farms they began to envelop

Then thirteen alien monsters seated
Blinking, melting, morphing up on the stage
Gyrations thirteen times each repeated
Sent my fears of thirteen straight off the page

Why couldn't there be a dirty dozen
Just enough weirdness to show the increase
Maybe the thirteenth could be a cousin
Any more numbers give me no peace

Now as I drift to more pleasant slumbers
I'll dream thirteen times of even numbers

I wrote this particular sonnet on Friday the 13th, 2010.

Fun With Fear: Sonnet Prognosis of Phobic Neuroses

ACROPHOBIA - FEAR OF HIGH PLACES

So when you finally get those feet elevated
Your nightmare takes you to halcyon heights
You feel you have somehow been elevated
To a pinnacle of horrific and sheer delights
The Grand Cnayon stopped you from looking over the cliff
The Empire State Building got you from ground up dizzy
The Stratosphere gave you a Las Vegas Boulevard whiff
Just thoughts of China's Great Wall left you in a tizzy
Chopsticks brought you more fear for the Tokyo Tower
Better not even mention the Seattle Space Needle
The Sears and Petronus Towers you fear by the hour
The Eiffel Tower puts you in a position almost fetal
Safe now on Zabriskie Point down in Death Valley
You dream of more gutterballs in a bowling alley

AGOROPHOBIA - FEAR OF OPEN / PUBLIC PLACES

Closed? Great! I can't imagine spending time in a farmer's market
Jogging or walking around the quad on a public school campus
I panic when I'm in those huge lots where I take my car to park it
That's worse than riding a horse around the Argentine pampas
Horror of horrors for me to be lost inside the Minnesota mall
Riding high up in a wheat harvester combine on the Great Plains
It's even more frightening to step inside of an empty Carnegie Hall
Rowing or towing a boat on the Mississippi Delta after it rains
Living hell for me is being stuck in Grand Central Station
With one or two opposing teams on a sports field situation
Don't even try to offer me winter trips to a Southern location
That might take through a large cotton field plantation
Please! no dogs, no Frisbees, or theater on a Central Park lawn
But maybe, a drive-in movie with shows from dusk till dawn

AUTOPHOBIA - FEAR OF BEING ALONE

What's the matter with being by myself
I seem to always need to be with others
Can't stand sitting alone like a pie on a shelf
I could be fighting with my sisters and brothers
I love being in the crush of the bluetag special crowd
No desire whatsoever for that old rocking chair
My casino buddies will all shout out loud
When I join them and stop playing solitaire
It is simply dreadful when I can't get together
With my cousins and have some innocent fun
Can't stand sitting inside because of the weather
Only to go outside and find out I'm the lonely one
Have to learn to be alone not a burden to my friends
So I can rest in peace contented as my life story ends

Silly Sonnets on Fear

By JOSEPH B. CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In agreement with former President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1933 statement, " ...the only thing we have to fear is fear itself," here are some silly sonnets written in hope of possibly alleviating some of those fears.

ERYTHROPHOBIA - Fear of the Color Red

Told it was not red but alizarin crimson in color
My fear of red was there because of its similarity
Regardless the shade whether brighter or duller
Red light refracting through the prisms polarity

I can't say exactly when I began to be so fearful of red
Once it started though I didn't know how to get it to stop
It came with jealousy, red lights, a sun burn on my head
And didn't give myself the chance to even call the cops

Griping about all those red business men coming from Mars
Perpetuating that peculiar old misogynist glass ceiling war
No Red Bull, red ties, and red pepper power lunches at bars
In the red at the bank I looked for green and much more

Now still seeing red, this time my very own life blood
This erythrophobic heart attack ain't doing me much good

PHONOPHOBIA - Fear of Noise

Then came the rustling of grasses and leaves pianissimo
Cackling squirrels and chipmunks chattering in cacaphony
Claps of thunder and lightening sounding a scary scherzo
Babbling brooks a joy for some, for you miserable monotony

I agree, those quaking aspens sometimes have a wierd whisper
Ice chunks fall from buildings and waterfalls pour out a loud largo
Wrinkling noise from dollar bills, lettuce, and celery that's crisper
Say nothing of squealing rats chasing each other down in the cargo

Phonophobia gives you Rossini size headaches from operatic high 'C's
Constant stiff necks and cramps from crashing sounds at city rush hour
You try to appreciate learning to tell the sound of the forest from the trees
Or the busy buzzing of bees and bumblebees working on each flower

It'd be grand not to cringe when hearing the kikkikkik of geckoes
To finally be relieved when hearing your own muted echoes

ZOOPHOBIA - Fear of Animals

Was it two glass eyes on the alligator purse
Or simply reading the word 'wildebeest'
Teddy bears held up by a hospital nurse
Hyenas laughing at their bloody feast

Lions letting loose a tremendous roar
Hearing rattlesnakes rattle or vipers hiss
Black and white photos of tusks of wild boars
Or being tickkled to death by a butterfly's kiss

Was it the smell and sound in a big pig's grunt
A trained pit bulls snarl and ugly bark
The rat squealing when I gave it a punt
More coyote noises outside after dark

Maybe it was fear of anteater's tongues or dung from a yak
Or just some pretty patterned stripes on a zebra's back

PSYCHROPHOBIA - Fear of Cold

Trepidation starts with a few flakes of snow
Soon clumps and whole handfuls are dropping
Building up to a full fledged glacial floe
Months of it continue without stopping

Through layers of clothing we feel the ice
Straight into our eyes cold needles of sleet
Into our sinuses sharp icicles slice
Tomorrow's forecast is for a repeat

Horror continues - now everyone's freezing
Falling in the streets, on sidewalks slipping
Head colds, cold feet, drippy nose and sneezing
Back and forth from work to house we're tripping

Some plum brandy shots will warm up our gizzard
Irish whiskey and coffee help to face the blizzard

Comic book character Archie to be killed off

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Not even Archie Andrews is immortal in the world of comics.

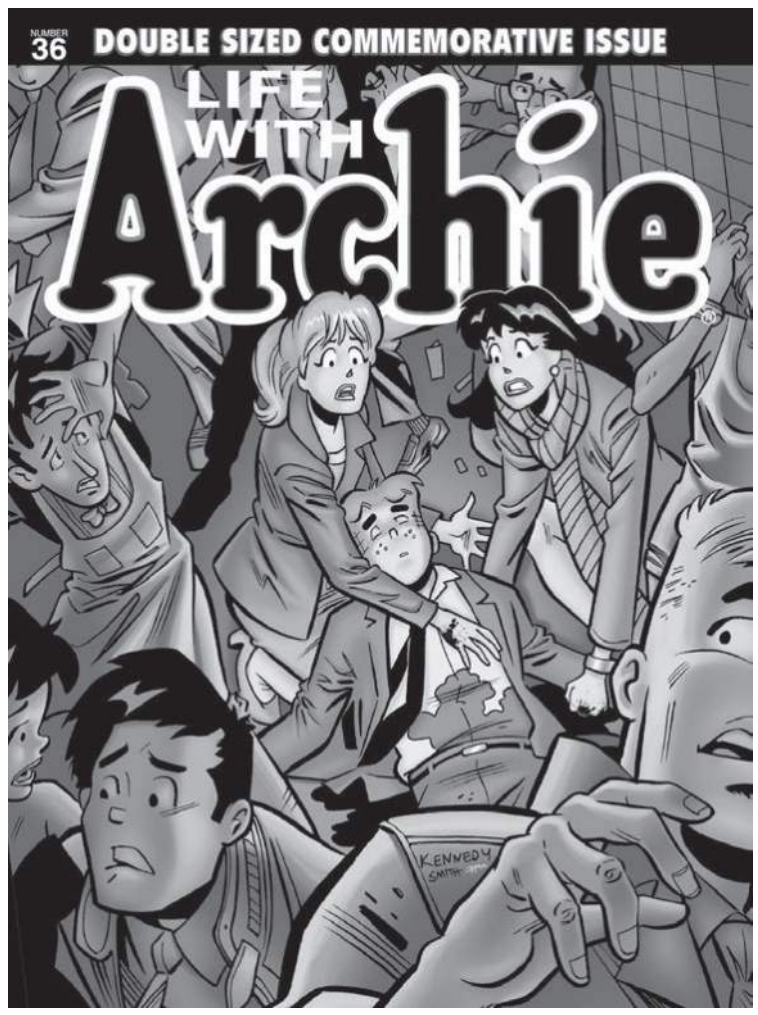
Archie Comics announced Tuesday that the famous comic book character will heroically sacrifice himself while saving the life of a friend in a July installment of "Life with Archie," a comic book series that tells the story of grown-up renditions of Archie and his Riverdale gang.

"We've been building up to this moment since we launched `Life with Archie' five years ago and knew that any book that was telling the story of Archie's life as an adult had to also show his final moment," Archie Comics publisher and co-CEO Jon Goldwater said in a statement.

Archie's final moments will be detailed in "Life with Archie" No. 36, while issue No. 37 will jump forward a year and focus on his friends Jughead, Betty, Veronica and Reggie honoring the legacy of their red-headed pal.

Archie first appeared in comics in 1941 and went on to become a colorful icon of wholesomeness.

In recent years, Archie Comics has tackled such issues as gay characters and the zombie apocalypse in Archie's fictional hometown of Riverdale. However, Archie himself won't need to rise from the grave. The freckle-faced character will still be alive and well in other series.



This photo released by Archie Comics shows "Life with Archie." AP

Journey's Pineda plans to launch own music

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—American rock band Journey's lead vocalist Arnel Pineda says he's been putting together an album of his own compositions in his own voice which he plans to launch within the year.

But he quashed rumors that he is gearing to leave Journey. The Filipino singer says he will stay as long as the band needs him.

Pineda also dismissed talk of the band's possible reunion with former lead singer Steve Perry, saying there's been no discussion on that among the band's members.

The singer spoke in an interview Tuesday during the launch of his version of the song "Charity" in the animated children's music video Cha-Ching on Cartoon Network.

The song can be purchased in iTunes Store for the benefit of relief efforts for Typhoon Haiyan victims in the Philippines.

Mickey Rooney's will details final wishes

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mickey Rooney signed his last will just weeks before death, leaving a modest estate to a stepson who had been his caretaker, but the actor had no intention of ending his Hollywood career anytime soon, his attorney said Tuesday.

Rooney's death Sunday occurred after the actor began to have difficulty breathing during an afternoon nap, attorney Michael Augustine said. The actor had been in good spirits and was looking forward to continuing to appear in movies after filming a scene for the upcoming installment of the "Night at the Museum" franchise.

Rooney

Augustine said Rooney, 93, passed a physical required before he could start filming and his death was due to natural causes, including complications related to diabetes.

Police and coroner's officials were informed of Rooney's death but said no investigation of it was necessary.

Rooney's will was filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on Tuesday. It was signed by Rooney on March 11 and called for his stepson Mark Rooney and his wife to be the sole beneficiaries of the actor's estate, which is valued at only $18,000.

The actor designated Augustine to serve as the executor of his estate, stating that he did not want any relative handling his final affairs.

Despite a show business career spanning more than 80 years, Rooney said he had lost most of his fortune because of elder abuse and financial mismanagement by another one of his stepsons. Augustine said despite an agreement for millions to be repaid to the actor, it was unlikely the estate could ever collect on the judgment.

Rooney's will disinherited the actor's eight surviving children, as well as his estranged wife. Jan Rooney will receive her husband's Social Security benefits and some of his pension earnings as a result of a previous agreement; Augustine said Rooney felt that provided adequate care for her. He said Rooney's children were in better financial situations than the actor, so he felt it was appropriate to leave Mark Rooney all he had left.

The star of the "Andy Hardy" films and Hollywood's highest paid actor in the late 1930s and early 1940s, Rooney was a product of the industry's old studio system and was not entitled to hefty royalty payments, Augustine said.

Plans are still being made for Rooney's burial and a possible tribute, Augustine said. An agreement was reached Tuesday not to move the actor's body from a mortuary until a court hearing Friday that may help determine where he is laid to rest.

Augustine said that while Rooney has a burial plot in Westlake Village, northwest of Los Angeles, the actor had said recently he wanted to be buried in Hollywood or a veteran's cemetery.

"We were going to buy plots," Augustine said, but the actor "didn't have any money."

He said the family would like to have a small private service, but hopes that a larger celebration of Rooney's life and career can be arranged with help from film companies.

Amy Poehler and brother Greg team on new comedy

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—Another Poehler sibling is bringing his comedy to television.

Greg Poehler, whose sister Amy stars on NBC's "Parks and Recreation," stars in "Welcome to Sweden," debuting July 10 on the same network.

He plays an accountant who follows his girlfriend back to her native Sweden despite having no job, friends or any idea what he's getting into.

Poehler also created, wrote and serves as executive producer of the show based on his own life and shot mainly in Sweden. Amy Poehler, Will Ferrell, Aubrey Plaza and Gene Simmons make guest appearances as themselves.

The show debuted in Sweden three weeks ago, drawing more than 2 million viewers. Greg Poehler says it's already been picked up for a second season and he hopes it does just as well in the U.S.

Amy Poehler is an executive producer on the show. She says she always knew her brother was a funny writer.

Michael Cera, Kieran Culkin to star on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Cera and Kieran Culkin are slated to star together on Broadway in Kenneth Lonergan's play "This Is Our Youth," a comedy about the high times and aimless lives of two disaffected young men.

Lonergan said Tuesday that Cera, whose credits include "Arrested Development," "Juno" and "Superbad," and Culkin, of "Igby Goes Down" and "Cider House Rules," will bring the play to Broadway in the fall after a stop this summer at Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company. All three will be making their Broadway debuts.

Culkin

The woman in the middle of the pair will be played by Tavi Gevinson, who founded a web magazine for teenage girls and acted in the film "Enough Said." The production will be directed by Anna D. Shapiro and will have original music by Rostam Batmanglij of the band Vampire Weekend.

"This is very exciting," the playwright said by phone. "I've had many chances to do the play over the years in New York, and one reason I avoided it was because it's very hard to cast. I'm very excited about this particular group of people."

The play will be in Chicago from June 10 to July 27 and begin previews Aug. 18 on Broadway, with an opening night at the Corte Theatre set for Sept. 11. The play will be produced on Broadway by Scott Rudin.

Set in 1982 at the beginning of the Reagan Era, the entire play takes place over two days at the Upper West Side apartment of Dennis, a narcissistic kid with wealthy parents. He gets an unexpected visit from his weird friend Warren, who fled home after having a disagreement with his dad and taking $15,000.

They come up with a dangerous plan to return the money and avoid punishment: First use it to buy cocaine and then resell the coke at a profit so they can also party and attract the attention of Warren's affections: 19-year-old Jessica Goldman.

Man is patient as independent woman struggles with intimacy

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 27-year-old woman who has never had a boyfriend or been kissed. I was never interested in romance or having a significant other. I felt strong being independent and taking care of myself. Now that I have a degree, a career and a house, I feel ready to try to let a man into my life.

I met a really nice guy a month ago. "Brian" and I have gone out several times and have a lot in common. He's a gentleman, and he says he's willing to wait for me.

I have been having a difficult time letting myself be physical with him. Even hugging is uncomfortable for me. I know it's because I have been a shy loner my whole life and I'm unaccustomed to being close to people.

Even though Brian says he'll be patient, I can sense his frustration. Physical closeness should come easily if you like and are attracted to someone. I feel abnormal. I don't know if I'll be this way forever or get more comfortable the more I know him.

I'm afraid Brian—and most men—won't be willing to wait that long. I'm afraid if I don't move faster I'll lose a great guy and never get another chance. What do you think?

BLOCKED IN BOISE

DEAR BLOCKED: Being intimate with someone because you're afraid you'll lose him or it will be your last chance is the wrong reason. I think that the sooner you talk with a licensed therapist about your lifelong shyness and discomfort, the quicker you can understand the reasons for it and overcome it. Your doctor should be able to refer you to someone.

If Brian is the right man for you, he will stand by you. But if he doesn't, you'll be able to more easily relate to someone else.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am planning my wedding in the fall. My fiance and I are paying for the wedding and reception.

I have worked at my job for a year, and I haven't always been treated well by a few co-workers. I am reluctant to invite these people because I'm worried about the repercussions if I do. I know they will judge every aspect because they did it to another co-worker.

I like a few of the people I work with, but I don't know if I can invite only them. What do I do?

WEDDING PLANNER IN OMAHA

DEAR WEDDING PLANNER: What you do is invite only those people you truly want to attend your wedding. It's not necessary to apologize for it or to explain why. If you are put on the spot and feel you must give a reason, say that your guest list is limited because of financial constraints. It's far more tactful than saying they are being excluded because they are rude, awful people, and you don't want them anywhere near you on such an important occasion.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I SURE LIKE CHOCOLATE FROSTED SUGAR BOMBS! LOOK HOW BROWN THE MILK GETS!
UGH.
WANT TO SEE SOMETHING WEIRD? LOOK AT THE NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE BACK PANEL.
WOW. 100% OF THE DAILY RECOMMENDED ALLOWANCE OF CAFFEINE!
HEY LOOK! YOU CAN SEND AWAY FOR A CHOCOLATE FROSTED SUGAR BOMBS "BUZZY THE HUMMINGBIRD" DOLL!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HOW DOES BEING DIGESTED BY LIZARDS MAKE THESE BEANS BETTER?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT DOES SOMETHING. THE TASTE IS GREAT.
PLUS I'M NOT SURE I'VE EVER BEEN THIS ALERT. THIS AWARE! THIS READY FOR ACTION!
YEAH. YOU SEEM DIFFERENT.
DIDYOUHEARTHAT? IHEARDSOMETHING!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

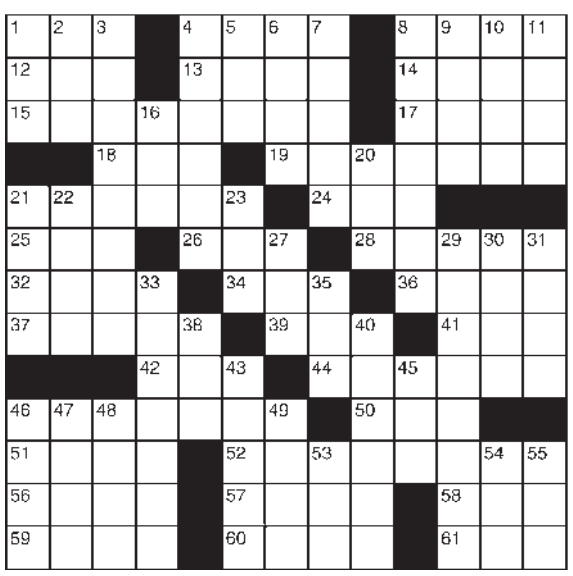
ACROSS
1 Ring tactic
4 Double-parking penalty
8 Gaucho's weapon
12 Id counterpart
13 Slaughter of baseball lore
14 Biblical kingdom
15 Library needs
17 Verdi's "— nome"
18 Tease
19 Russian urn
21 Hocked
24 Candied veggie
25 Commotion
26 Knock
28 Messing or Winger
32 Auditioner's hope
34 Janitor's item
36 Cleanser
37 Ready to fight
39 Crony
41 Raw rock
42 Mid-June honoree
44 Strolled
46 Nearly divine one
50 Role on "Bones"
51 Sandwich treat
52 Shelving of a sort
56 Stead
57 Inactive
58 Scoot
59 "— Make a Deal"
60 Vortex
61 Frat party item

DOWN
1 George W.'s brother
2 Past
3 Constant reader
4 Birdcage attachment
5 B&B
6 Greets silently
7 English composition
8 Turns into
9 Norwegian saint
10 Zhivago's love
11 "Omnia vincit —"
16 Family
20 Crazy
21 One of the Three Bears
22 Hebrew month
23 Water barrier
27 Burst
29 Shortcut to a website
30 Exceptional
31 Mimicked
33 Wearying
35 Cat's dog?
38 U.N. VIP Hammarskjold
40 Menial servant
43 Gillis of old TV
45 Fond du —
46 Action figure, really
47 Ontario neighbor
48 Encounter
49 Connecticut politico Chris
53 Antiquated
54 Seek restitution
55 Chang's brother

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	R	A	■	E	P	P	S	■	G	R	O	W
L	O	W	■	S	E	A	L	■	L	E	N	A
A	S	A	■	C	A	R	E	G	I	V	E	R
B	A	Y	O	U	■	■	D	U	D	■	■	■
■	■	■	D	E	M	I	■	M	E	D	A	L
C	A	R	E	L	E	S	S	■	S	O	L	O
A	V	A	■	A	R	L	E	S	■	O	E	R
M	O	J	O	■	C	A	R	E	H	H	E	E
S	W	A	B	S	■	M	A	C	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	J	A	G	■	■	U	Z	B	E	K
C	A	R	F	T	A	K	F	R	■	A	X	F
A	L	E	C	■	Z	E	K	E	■	S	P	Y
R	I	F	T	■	A	G	E	S	■	S	O	S

Yesterday's answer 4-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alex Pettyfer, 24; Haley Joel Osment, 26; Shay Mitchell, 27; Dion Phaneuf, 29

Happy Birthday: Stand up and be counted. Show what you have to offer and don't shy away from the limelight. Be prepared mentally and physically at all times and you will be able to take advantage of opportunities that come your way. This is a proactive year that must not be overridden by unexpected setbacks. Face challenges head-on and proceed. Your numbers are 4, 7, 15, 24, 26, 39, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Do your best to achieve your goals. Show how competitive you can be. Attract attention and make new friends who are just as enthusiastic as you are. Socializing with progressive people will lead to long-term alliances. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Keep a low profile and work diligently toward your own goal. Avoid telling others how to do things or you will end up with an enemy, not an ally. Concentrate on self-improvement and doing a good job. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take part in things you enjoy and you'll bypass some troubles that can develop with someone at work. A lack of honesty is apparent and can lead to poor choices. Make positive changes at home as well as personal improvements. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Build your resume and add to your skills and knowledge, and it will be easier to deal with the changes occurring at work and within your industry. Stability should be your concern and moderation your safety net. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Strive for perfection. Your ability to see situations from all sides will help you mediate any disagreement or debate that arises. A change in position will help you build a strong portfolio and improve your standard of living. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Go over what's happening in your life. Don't let your finances get you down when a strict budget and greater control over family or domestic spending will get you back on track. A business partnership must delegate responsibilities before you move forward. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Tread carefully when dealing with friends, family or partners. Put time and effort into getting your chores out of the way and living up to any promises you made. You may feel like making a personal or physical change, but be wary of a sales pitch that promises the impossible. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take it upon yourself to delve into unusual pastimes or to research something that will help you build a unique home environment or workspace. Dress to impress by sporting a look that will grab attention. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Do what you can to improve your surroundings. Social activities will bring you in touch with someone you find appealing. Get physical and improve your health and overall appearance. An emotional problem will surface if you haven't been upfront. ✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Keep your communication to a minimum. Go over personal papers, contracts, settlements or any research you require to make a decision. Avoid arguing with someone unwilling to budge. Look for innovative ways to get your way. Incentive and compliments will help. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Use what you know to advance. Express your interests and set up interviews or talks with those in a position to help you reach your goals. Aggressive action will bring results and position you to do well on upcoming projects. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Make your moves with precision. The research you do will make a difference to the way you view what's going on around you. A partnership will stabilize your position and encourage you to expand your interests. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are quick to respond. You are intelligent and generous.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9				8		4		5
		2					7	
								8
		7			1	2		
	6		7		2		3	
		1	3			9		
1								
	5					6		
8		9		6				4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	9	2	7	1	6	8	5	3
6	8	3	2	5	4	1	9	7
5	7	1	3	8	9	2	6	4
1	6	5	9	3	7	4	8	2
8	2	4	1	6	5	3	7	9
9	3	7	8	4	2	5	1	6
7	5	9	4	2	1	6	3	8
3	4	6	5	9	8	7	2	1
2	1	8	6	7	3	9	4	5

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HAROLD RAMIS (1944-2014) **Solution: 10 letters**

C	R	T	E	L	O	I	V	H	A	T	S	L	L	G
A	P	O	Y	V	E	L	Y	V	E	H	C	U	A	N
Y	E	U	T	B	Ⓣ	Ⓘ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	O	M	D	F	M	I
T	Y	S	D	C	U	R	N	W	D	E	Y	Y	P	L
I	T	R	A	E	E	L	A	A	C	A	O	A	O	A
C	N	E	A	H	K	R	C	E	D	T	R	L	O	E
I	U	T	C	O	C	C	I	G	Y	B	K	P	N	T
L	O	S	I	M	D	P	O	D	Y	A	A	A	O	S
P	C	U	R	E	R	H	R	N	S	L	L	R	I	D
I	E	B	E	E	D	N	N	O	K	L	L	A	T	A
T	G	T	T	N	T	A	T	S	D	S	E	D	A	E
L	N	S	U	S	M	I	H	S	S	U	N	I	C	H
U	A	O	A	C	B	L	R	K	A	I	C	S	A	R
M	R	H	A	R	D	U	I	W	A	L	K	E	V	I
G	O	G	N	H	O	J	C	F	R	U	H	T	R	A

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Airheads, Akroyd, Allen, Arthur, Chase, Chevy, Club, Cubs, Daniel, Director, Edit, Erica, Film, Ghostbusters, Groundhog Day, Hard, Hats, Home, John, Julian, Kiss, Knocked Up, Lampoon, Last, Levy, Mann, Masterpiece, Meatballs, Multiplicity, Orange County, Paradise, Playful, Producer, Show, Stealing, Vacation, Violet, Walk, Writer, Year

Yesterday's Answer: Winter

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1**, order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

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- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
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- Must be flexible with time schedule

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dba Five Star Builders Corporation
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(1) **Assistant Manager**
Atleast 2 to 4 years of work experience in hospitality industry.

(1) **Waitress**
All applicants must be fluent in Japanese and Chinese language.

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1 – GRAPHIC DESIGNER – Applicant must have 4 years of work experience. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have creativity and visual advertising skills to perform wide variety of promotions and store signage. Must be hardworking, resourceful and has a keen eye for details. Knowledgeable of printing procedures, website designing and maintenance, point of sales display concept. Must be proficient in Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Acrobat, Corel Draw & other graphic designing software. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

1 – TEMPORARY TATTOO ARTIST – Applicant must have 4 years of work experience working with registered imitation of an original tattoo. Must be knowledgeable with the uses of brush and variety of inks and colors. Ability to explain and help customer decide if designs in terms of the tattoos are adapted to their skins for a longer period or not. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have excellent customer services. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

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UConn routs Notre Dame 79-58, wins 9th title

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Geno Auriemma and UConn reached the top of women's college basketball in unprecedented fashion. After winning a record ninth national championship—they stand alone.

The Huskies reached the pinnacle in style, routing Notre Dame in the first NCAA basketball championship game featuring undefeated teams. Auriemma and his Huskies now have one more title than Pat Summitt and Tennessee for most all-time, and they did it in the Hall of Famer's backyard.

The Huskies had struggled recently against the Irish, but not Tuesday night, cruising to a 79-58 win.

"It means we've done something no one else has ever done," Auriemma said. "Flattered and grateful and all the things that come with this kind of accomplishment. ... I'm more proud of the legacy that exists and what Connecticut basketball is as opposed to the number of championships."

Breanna Stewart, who was The Associated Press Player of the Year, scored 21 points to lead the Huskies (40-0) while Stefanie Dolson added 17 points, 16 rebounds and seven assists. Auriemma took out his senior center with a minute left and the game well in hand with the pair embracing in a long hug.

"We beat a great, great team," Auriemma said. "Notre Dame is a great team. For them to have the season they had and lose their starting center and to do what they did, I can't say enough about their players, coaching staff and it took everything we have. I knew if we played great we'd have a chance to win."

The victory also meant that UConn is now the center of the college basketball world with both the men's and women's teams winning the championship in the same year again. The men's team beat Kentucky in the title game Monday night. This pair of victories came a decade after the Huskies became the only Division I school to accomplish the feat.

AP

Connecticut players carry Connecticut head coach Geno Auriemma after the second half of the championship game against Notre Dame in the Final Four of the NCAA women's college basketball tournament, Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn. Connecticut won 79-58.

"I couldn't be prouder of what the men did last night," Auriemma said.

Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw congratulated the UConn coach when they shook hands after the game.

"I said something like, `I thought we were playing the Miami Heat for a while you guys are just that good.' What a great season, you know things like that," McGraw said. "I thought ... LeBron was the only thing they were missing."

While the names change at UConn, from Rebecca Lobo to Diana Taurasi, Maya Moore and now Stewart, Auriemma has been the constant, winning nine titles in only 20 seasons—including the last two. He's never lost in a national championship game.

"Congratulations to the UConn Huskies for winning the 2014 NCAA National Championship!," Summitt said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press. "My compliments also to coach Geno Auriemma for winning his ninth national title. He has accomplished this feat in record time."

It was the fifth unbeaten season for Auriemma and UConn and the first time the Huskies went 40-0—matching Baylor as the only schools to accomplish that feat. The victory was also Connecticut's 46th straight dating back to last season's NCAA tournament title run. It's the third longest streak in school history—well short of the NCAA record 90 straight they won.

The loss was Notre Dame's third in the title game in the past four years. Kayla McBride finished off her stellar career with 21 points to lead the Irish, who were looking for their first championship since 2001.

"Obviously we wanted to finish this season with a championship," said Irish freshman Taya Reimer, who replaced Achonwa in the starting lineup. "Right now, it is hard to think about. It hurts a lot."

After proving to be no challenge for the Huskies during the first 15 years of the rivalry which began in 1995, Notre Dame had owned the series lately, winning seven of the previous nine meetings. UConn though has won the last two, eliminating Notre Dame in the Final Four last season before topping them in the championship game this year.

The former Big East rivals played an entertaining first half in the highly anticipated matchup that women's basketball hoped could transcend the sport. The programs don't care for each other and the coaches added to the drama of the game with their verbal sparring on Monday.

But it was Auriemma who got the last word again.

Even with the loss, it was a record-setting season for the Irish. Notre Dame lost Skylar Diggins to graduation and changed conferences to the ACC. Neither mattered as they ran through their opponents, winning by an average of 25.6 points while taking both the conference regular season and tournament championships.

The Irish lost senior Natalie Achonwa to a torn ACL in the regional final win over Baylor. Notre Dame wore warmup shirts with Achonwa's nickname "Ace" below her No. 11.

The team played inspired basketball in the Final Four win over Maryland where Notre Dame outrebounded the Terps by a record margin. The Irish couldn't muster a similar effort against UConn. The Huskies outrebounded the Irish 54-31 and held them to a season-low in points.

"They got comfortable," McBride said. "They got into a rhythm, and it just went downhill from there."

Nets finish off sweep of Heat, win 88-87

MIAMI (AP)—Joe Johnson scored 19 points, Mason Plumlee was credited with a block on LeBron James' dunk attempt in the final seconds, and the Brooklyn Nets finished off a four-game season sweep of Miami by beating the Heat 88-87 on Tuesday night.

It was the third time Brooklyn beat Miami by a single point; the other win came in double-overtime.

Marcus Thornton scored 16 points and Paul Pierce added 14 for the Nets, who became the first team in the last two years to sweep the Heat. Miami was the only team in the league to beat every team last season and would have repeated that feat with a win Tuesday.

James had 29 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for the Heat, who remained a half-game ahead of Indiana, and one in the loss column, in the race for the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference. Chris Bosh scored 12 and Norris Cole added 10 for Miami.

Thunder 107, Kings 92

In Sacramento, Calif., Caron Butler made all six of his 3-point attempts to finish with 23 points, and Oklahoma City started the fourth quarter on a 16-0 run to pull away for the victory.

Kevin Durant scored 23 points but was never needed in the final quarter, stopping his streak of scoring at least 25 points in 41 consecutive games. Serge Ibaka added 19 points and four rebounds for the Thunder, who rested Russell Westbrook ahead of Wednesday night's game at the Los Angeles Clippers.

Oklahoma City (56-21) is 1½ games ahead of the Clippers (55-23) for the Western Conference's No. 2 playoff seed.

DeMarcus Cousins collected 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Travis Outlaw scored 24 points in Sacramento's third straight loss.

Timberwolves 110, Spurs 91

In Minneapolis, Ricky Rubio scored 23 points and Gorgui Dieng had 12 points and 15 rebounds, leading Minnesota to the win.

Kevin Love had 19 points and 12 rebounds and Corey Brewer scored 14 for the Timberwolves, who have beaten Miami and San Antonio in two of their last three games.

Kawhi Leonard had 11 points and six rebounds for the Spurs, who were playing without Tony Parker and have now lost two of three following a 19-game winning streak. Parker has a back injury, but coach Gregg Popovich said before the game he didn't believe it was that serious.

Manu Ginobili left in the third quarter with a left calf contusion, and the Spurs were just 4 for 17 from 3-point range in a listless performance.

Mavericks 95, Jazz 83

In Salt Lake City, Dirk Nowitzki scored 21 points on 9-of-11 shooting, and the Mavericks earned their fifth consecutive victory.

Dallas shot 56 percent from the field and had six players score in double figures. Monta Ellis had 16 points and reserve Vince Carter added 13.

Derrick Favors scored 19 points for the Jazz, who lost for the 18th time in their last 21 games. Reserve Enes Kanter added 15 points and 19 rebounds, and Richard Jefferson had 15 points.

Dallas opened the game by making 17 of 18 shots. The Mavericks shot 94.1 percent (16 of 17) from the floor in the first quarter alone.

Pistons 102, Hawks 95

In Atlanta, Rodney Stuckey scored 29 points, Greg Monroe and Andre Drummond each had a double-double and Detroit snapped a 10-game skid in Atlanta.

Atlanta has five games left in the regular season and a 1½-game advantage over New York for the eighth and final Eastern Conference playoff spot.

Paul Millsap had 24 points and 12 rebounds for Atlanta, which had won three of four.

Monroe finished with 21 points and 13 rebounds and Drummond had 19 points and 17 rebounds for the Pistons, who have won two straight after dropping five of six.

Rockets 145, Lakers 130

In Los Angeles, Terrence Jones and James Harden scored 33 points apiece, and the Houston Rockets kept up their playoff push with their third straight victory.

Chandler Parsons scored 19 points for the Rockets, who used a 49-point third quarter against the Los Angeles Lakers to solidify their hold on fourth place in the Western Conference standings despite their second-worst defensive performance of the year. Houston won the opener of a three-game road trip without injured Dwight Howard and Patrick Beverley.

Steve Nash moved into third place on the NBA's career assists list for the miserable Lakers (25-53), who tied the franchise record for losses in a single season with their worst defensive performance of the year.

Braun hits 3 homers, Brewers beat Phillies, 10-4

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Ryan Braun hit three home runs and tied a franchise record with seven RBIs to lead the Milwaukee Brewers over Philadelphia 10-4 Tuesday, spoiling the Phillies' home opener.

Coming off a three-game sweep of the World Series champion Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park, the Brewers won their fourth straight game and improved to 5-2.

Kyle Lohse (1-1) allowed three runs and seven hits, walking five.

Braun connected twice off Kyle Kendrick (0-1), snapping the longest homerless drought of his career. The 2011 NL MVP came in with only three singles in 20 at-bats this season.

But Braun, who is bothered by a right thumb injury, felt just fine, as usual, in Philadelphia. He has 10 homers and 21 RBIs in 20 career games at Citizens Bank Park.

AP

Milwaukee Brewers' Ryan Braun hits a solo home run in front of Philadelphia Phillies catcher Carlos Ruiz (51) during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Philadelphia.

Giants 7, Diamondbacks 3

In San Francisco, Michael Morse hit a two-run single to back Tim Hudson as each made memorable home debuts with their new team, and Brandon Belt hit a two-run homer for San Francisco.

Hudson (2-0) shut down the D-backs for the second time in seven days with an eight-inning gem in his first outing at AT&T Park since agreed to a $23 million, two-year contract in November.

Belt's drive off Trevor Cahill (0-3) gave him five homers and the Giants a majors-leading 12.

New Giants left fielder Morse emphatically pumped his fist at first base after a third-inning single, then added a two-out double in the fifth.

Belt became the first Giants player since Jose Cruz Jr. in 2003 to hit five home runs through the first eight games.

Nationals 5, Marlins 0

In Washington, Gio Gonzalez threw six crisp innings to lead Washington.

Gonzalez allowed three singles and two walks. He allowed one baserunner to get as far as second, and struck out five hitters. He retired his last 10 batters and is 2-0 with a 0.75 ERA.

Adam LaRoche had three hits and drove in a run off Henderson Alvarez (0-2). Anthony Rendon went 2 for 4 with three RBIs as Washington improved to 5-2.

Miami entered an NL-best 5-2, a year after finishing with a league-high 100 losses. Led by Giancarlo Stanton, the Marlins were averaging a majors-best six runs a game, but they couldn't solve Gonzalez or four relievers.

Mets 4, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Bartolo Colon combined with two relievers on an eight-hitter, Ruben Tejada drove in two runs with two hits and New York beat Atlanta.

Jose Valverde loaded the basses in the ninth before Jason Heyward flied to the warning track in center field to end it.

The 40-year-old Colon (1-1) was dominant through seven innings. He gave up six hits and no walks, struck out five and didn't allow more than one baserunner in any inning until the seventh as he outpitched Atlanta's Aaron Harang (1-1).

Tejada scored on a wild pitch by Harang in the third and had run-scoring singles in the seventh and eighth innings.

Cardinals 7, Reds 5

In St. Louis, Matt Holliday hit a go-ahead two-run double in the sixth inning that glanced off right fielder Jay Bruce's glove on the warning track and St. Louis beat Cincinnati.

Yadier Molina homered and Peter Bourjos had three hits and an RBI to help the Cardinals clinch their 26th series win to go with three losses and two splits since 2003 against Cincinnati.

Bruce had a two-run triple in the first, Billy Hamilton's second hit of the season drove in a run and Ryan Ludwick had two RBIs for the Reds.

The Reds squandered a 4-0 second-inning lead by the bottom half of the inning, and Lance Lynn (2-0) got enough support to beat Cincinnati for the second straight time.

Trevor Rosenthal finished for his third save in three chances.

Bruce appeared to have a bead on Holliday's two-out drive with two on against Logan Ondrusek (0-1), but had to jump a bit at the last instant and the ball glanced off his glove as the Cardinals took a 6-5 lead. Bourjos added an RBI single in the seventh off J.J. Hoover.

Pirates 7, Cubs 6

In Chicago, Pedro Alvarez had two hits and two RBIs and Pittsburgh overcame two home runs by Starlin Castro.

Russell Martin drove in the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly in the eighth inning for Pittsburgh and Jason Grilli closed with a perfect ninth.

Cubs right-hander Pedro Strop (0-1) walked two batters in the eighth and recorded only one out before being replaced by left-hander James Russell. Russell immediately walked Pedro Alvarez to load the bases and Martin followed with a fly ball to right field that made it 7-6.

The Cubs tied the game in the seventh against Tony Watson (1-0) on Anthony Rizzo's hit up the middle scoring Emilio Bonifacio, who went 3 for 5 and is batting .515.

Dodgers 3, Tigers 2, 10 innings

In Los Angeles, Carl Crawford hit an RBI double in the 10th inning, lifting Los Angeles over Detroit.

The Tigers were down to their final out in the ninth when Victor Martinez got Max Scherzer off the hook with an RBI single against Dodgers closer Kenley Jansen—who had just struck out two-time AL MVP Miguel Cabrera—to make it 2-2. Ian Kinsler ignited the rally with a leadoff double.

Joba Chamberlain (0-1) struck out the side in the bottom of the ninth for Detroit, but walked pinch-hitter Chone Figgins to open the 10th and was replaced by Phil Coke.

Dee Gordon popped out to first baseman Victor Martinez on an attempted sacrifice bunt, but Crawford lined a 2-0 pitch past left fielder Rajai Davis and Figgins scampered home.

J.P. Howell (1-0) pitched a perfect 10th inning.

Austin Jackson homered for the Tigers in an interleague matchup between division winners from last season.

Gordon led off the Dodgers' first with a homer against Scherzer and Justin Turner had a sacrifice fly in the seventh.

White Sox 15, Rockies 3

In Denver, Jose Abreu and Avisail Garcia each hit two of Chicago's six homers.

Jose Quintana (1-0) pitched seven sharp innings, and Tyler Flowers and Alexei Ramirez also went deep for the first time this season. The White Sox had six total home runs before the fireworks in this one at hitter-friendly Coors Field.

The long balls were the first of the season for both Garcia and Abreu, the Cuban slugger who signed a $68 million, six-year contract in October. Garcia finished with four hits and three RBIs, while Abreu had a three-run homer in the seventh and a two-run shot an inning later.

Marcus Semien also had four of Chicago's 19 hits.

Franklin Morales (0-1) gave up six runs and two homers in 6 1-3 innings for Colorado.

Rangers 10, Red Sox 7

In Boston, Robinson Chirinos started a five-run third inning with his first homer of the season and the Texas Rangers won as the Boston Red Sox hit into five double plays.

The Red Sox scored three runs in the ninth against Joakim Soria on an RBI single by Jonny Gomes and a two-run double by David Ortiz, but Mike Napoli struck out to end the game.

Boston's five double plays were one fewer than the American League record for a nine-inning game shared by eight teams. The major league mark of seven was set by the San Francisco Giants in 1969.

All of them came against Martin Perez (1-0).

Texas won for the second time in five games as every starter reached base by the fourth inning. Boston lost its fourth game in the last five.

Chirinos' second career homer broke a scoreless tie and began an inning in which the Rangers batted around against Felix Doubront (1-0).

Orioles 14, Yankees 5

In New York, Delmon Young, Adam Jones and Matt Wieters homered as the Baltimore Orioles teed off for 20 hits, battering the New York Yankees 14-5 Tuesday.

Young and Wieters each drove in three runs, and Jones delivered one of the Orioles' four doubles at a half-empty Yankee Stadium.

Everyone in Baltimore's starting lineup got a hit and scored a run. The Orioles posted their second-highest hit total in the Bronx, eclipsed only by a 22-hit outburst in 1986.

Wei-Yin Chen (1-1) weathered five innings for the win, giving up four runs and nine hits.

Ivan Nova (1-1) was tagged for seven runs and 10 hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Rays 1, Royals 0

In Kansas Coty, Mo., James Loney hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning to lift Tampa Bay over Kansas City.

Rays starter Chris Archer wriggled out of two bases-loaded jams and went seven innings in an impressive pitchers' duel between top young arms. Royals rookie Yordano Ventura dazzled in his season debut, holding Tampa Bay to two hits in six shutout innings.

Loney's grounder to right scored Wil Myers, who snapped an 0-for-15 slump when he reached on an infield single to start the ninth. Myers advanced on a two-out wild pitch by Greg Holland (0-1).

Joel Peralta (1-1) struck out Danny Valencia with the bases loaded, and Grant Balfour worked the ninth for his second save.

Ventura walked none and struck out six, including Myers three times.

Mariners 5, Angels 3

In Seattle, Corey Hart hit a three-run homer and a solo shot, sending Seattle past Los Angeles in its home opener.

The Mariners became the final major league team to open at home and improved to 4-0 against the Angels this season. Before the game, a sold-out crowd at Safeco Field gave Russell Wilson, Pete Carroll and other members of the Super Bowl champion Seattle Seahawks a raucous ovation.

Seattle scored four times with two outs in the third inning, capped by Hart's three-run drive off starter Hector Santiago (0-2).

Mariners starter James Paxton (2-0) gave up first-inning homers to Albert Pujols and David Freese, then retired 14 straight. Paxton left in the sixth after straining a muscle on the left side of his back.

Fernando Rodney earned his second save despite walking his first two batters in the ninth.

Robinson Cano's home debut in Seattle was mostly uneventful. Cano went 0 for 3 and scored a run.

Pujols hit his first homer of the season and became the second active player with 1,500 career RBIs.

Blue Jays 5, Astros 2

In Toronto, Melky Cabrera homered for the fourth straight game, Jose Bautista also went deep and Toronto handed Houston its fifth loss in six games.

Cabrera hit a two-run shot off reliever Kevin Chapman in the seventh, connecting on an 0-2 pitch. Cabrera has hit more home runs in eight games this season than he did in 88 last year, when he missed time with leg injuries before having a benign tumor removed from his spine on Aug. 30.

Mark Buehrle (2-0) allowed one run and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings. Sergio Santos struck out the side in the ninth for his third save.

Brett Oberholtzer (0-2) gave up three runs and three hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Indians 8, Padres 6

In Cleveland, David Murphy hit a three-run homer and had four RBIs as Cleveland took advantage of outdoor batting practice and San Diego's sloppiness in their delayed interleague series opener.

Murphy's shot in the fourth inning off Tyson Ross (0-2) gave the Indians a 6-2 lead. He added an RBI double in the sixth and is 6 for 8 with five RBIs in his past two games.

Corey Kluber (1-1) pitched six solid innings. John Axford stopped a rally in the ninth for his third save.

The Indians were rained out for the second time Monday and have endured wintry conditions so far at home. They've only had BP on the field twice and have scored 15 runs in those games.

Nyjer Morgan had three hits and two RBIs for the Indians, who will play their second doubleheader this season Wednesday.

Pistorius wails while recalling shooting

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP)—A subdued Oscar Pistorius on Tuesday described dinner at home, chatting and looking at cell phone photos with Reeva Steenkamp on the last night of her life. Then he erupted in anguished howls and heaving sobs while testifying at his murder trial about the moments when he says he realized he shot his girlfriend through a closed toilet door.

The shocking spectacle of what appeared to be a tormented man highlighted the drama of Pistorius' inspirational rise and sudden fall. The South African double-amputee runner captured the world's attention when he successfully fought for permission to run in the 2012 Olympics on his carbon-fiber prostheses. The very next year, he was facing charges for killing the woman he said he loved.

The court in Pretoria, the South African capital, adjourned because of the star athlete's breakdown, ending a day in which Pistorius spoke of the loving aspects of his relationship with Steenkamp in testimony designed to counter a prosecution picture of him as temperamental and overbearing, and then outlined his version of the final hours before the shooting.

"I sat over Reeva and I cried," Pistorius said, telling how he broke open the stall door in his bathroom in the early hours of Feb. 14, 2013 to discover his bloodied girlfriend slumped in the cubicle. "I don't know how long I was there for."

AP

Oscar Pistorius, leaves the high court in Pretoria, South Africa, Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Pistorius has said in statements that he shot Steenkamp after mistaking her for an intruder in his bathroom. Tuesday marked the first time he has spoken publicly about the details of the fatal shooting. Prosecutors call Pistorius' story an intricate lie and maintain he intentionally killed his 29-year-old girlfriend, a model and reality TV show star, after an argument.

The 27-year-old Olympian faces a life sentence with a minimum of 25 years before parole if convicted of premeditated murder. The judge, Thokozile Masipa, will deliver the verdict because South Africa does not have a jury system.

Pistorius has often shown emotion while listening to testimony since the trial began March 3, burying his head in his hands, weeping and even vomiting on a couple of occasions. Tuesday's outburst on the witness stand was his most demonstrative, and it forced a brief adjournment. Pistorius didn't stand up when the judge left, and also started to wail as he slumped in his seat. His brother and sister went over to comfort him. After a while he left the courtroom through a side door, still crying.

When Masipa returned, she ended proceedings for the day. Pistorius had by that time come back, jaw clenched, to the witness box. He was composed when he left the court and walked to a waiting vehicle. The trial was to reconvene on Wednesday.

RED

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Braves won against the Red Sox by only one point in their first meeting, 9-8.

The second encounter proved to be crucial for the Red Sox, as it shut out the Braves in the first six innings before the latter stole home in the seventh inning to make it to the scoreboard.

Jerald Cabrera pitched a complete game for the Red Sox and allowed only four hits and walked four. He also had six strikeouts.

Red Sox pitcher and first baseman Bradley Lieto scored the team's first two runs, as they reached off Craig Aguon's double at the top of the second inning. The Red Sox then got one more run in the second off an error from Braves catcher Barry Sunumai. The three other runs were made off another Braves miscue in the third and Jhace Palacios' RBI single and Vincent Leong's bunt in the fifth for a 6-0 lead.

The Red Sox failed to score in the last two innings, but that did not hurt the team's cause, as the Braves answered with only one run at the bottom of the seventh with Roke Tenorio stealing home.

After nearly shutting out the Braves, the Red Sox returned to the "Tan Ko" ballfield and defeated the Fielders half an inning early.

After having two stranded runners at the bottom of the first inning and falling behind at 0-1, the Red Sox got their acts together in the next two innings to take control of the match. The Red Sox scored two unearned runs in the second inning and nailed five more in the third for a 7-2 lead. The eventual pennant champions got three unearned runs in the third and drew an RBI single from Aguon and an RBI triple from E.J. Castro.

The Red Sox never looked back from thereon, as they collected two more runs (one each in the fourth and fifth), while the Fielders were without a run in the last three innings to end the season in fifth place with their 3-9 record.

The Fielders are eliminated along with the winless Lions (0-12). The Fielders denied the Lions entry to the win column after notching a 12-7 victory last Saturday.

In other results over the weekend, the Braves bounced back from the costly loss to the Red Sox with a 6-2 triumph over the Lions. After the win, the Braves were hoping for the Fielders to upset the Red Sox in the final game of the regular season to clinch the pennant, but the latter spoiled the former's wish.

The Enforcers also played two games last weekend and won both, thwarting the Jets first, 8-3, before routing the Lions, 11-0. The Enforcers finished the regular season at third place with its 8-4 record, while the Jets dropped to a 7-5 card for fourth place and took the last playoff ticket.

The playoffs will start this weekend with the Red Sox and the Braves colliding for the first finals berth this Saturday. Then on Sunday, the Enforcers and Jets will square off for the right to face the loser of the Braves-Red Sox tiff for the second finals seat.

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the top spot in the sport division.

About 10 minutes behind Diyco was another Saipan bet, Russ Quinn, who won his age group (45 to 49) after submitting 2:17:31. Quinn was the second fastest in the swim leg with his 14:04, third best in the bike (1:36:36), and also the third fastest in the run with a split time of 23:33. He prevailed against Tinian's Allen Perez (3:07:43) and Saipan's Ricky Castro (3:10:07). Perez had split times of 18:35, 2:15:26, and 28:48, while Castro registered 18:24, 2:15:03, and 33:03.

Joining Quinn and Diyco in the Top 3 (overall) was Bob Ferrer, who clocked in at 2:21:11 after logging 15:29 in the swim, 1:31:45 in the bike, and 29:27 in the bike race.

Other XTERRA Sport participants who broke the three-hour barrier were Kanae Quinn (2:29:56), Ernie Moises (2:35:14), Jay Diyco (2:47:50), and Russia's Andrei Ermolaev (2:49:50). Kanae was one of the only two female participants in the short course with Russia's Natalia Khalazzi the other one and the former took the first place finish after leading by more than 50 minutes against the latter in the bike leg. Kanae had a bike split time of 1:46:16 to go with her 14:44 and 24:17 in the swim and run legs, respectively. Khalazzi had the fastest swim and run times—13:20 and 20:56—but still fell behind (3:21:55), as it took her more than two hours (2:42:54) to negotiate the tough bike course. She often opted to walk her bike on up and downhill roads and lost precious time in the second part of the race.

Moises clinched second place in the 40 to 44 age group with split times of 14:22, 1:50:30, and 26:09, making it to the finish line more than 12 minutes ahead of third placer Jay Diyco (19:58, 1:57:00, and 27:44).

Completing the list of XTERRA Sport finishers were Russia's Dmitrii Shurakhtenkov and Saipan's Leo Wania. Shurakhtenkov timed in at 3:13:25 with split times of 17:50, 2:26:49, and 25:33, while Wania recorded 3:21:41 (15:21, 2:20:11, and 39:41).

Meanwhile, the trio of Christian Villacrusis, Fred Remillosa, and Ricardo Antonio ruled the relay race after combining for 2:07:27. Villacrusis registered 12:21 in the one-lap swim race for the lead and the group widened the gap further with Remillosa submitting 1:28:09 in the bike race. Ricardo finished the race with his 27:26 in the run leg.

The trio defeated the father-and-son team of Ben and Benjamin Babauta (2:35:53) and the team of Vincent Seman, Jay Santos, and Catherine Cachero (2:51:09). Benjamin did the swim leg and timed in at 15:42, while Ben had the last two legs and tallied 1:52:23 and 25:58. Seman was the swimmer on his group and posted 14:19, while Santos took over in the bike leg and clocked in at 2:02:36. For the finish, Cachero registered 33:46.

THE CLINCH

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via rear-naked choke at the 2:37 mark of the second of their five-round bout.

"I will do my best to defend my title. I've been training for the last three months, working on my stamina and fighting skills, and I hope these will be enough to get another win. You can't really tell what's going to happen out there so you just have to be prepared and go all out," said Masga when asked about his chances against Camp.

Masga said he is working on his standup and kickboxing skills, but his best weapon remains to be his wrestling abilities.

The Masga-Camp title fight is one of the 12 MMA bouts scheduled in ROP 16, which will have its weigh-in today at GIG from 5pm to 7pm.

Zalaka's Allan "The Silver Bullet" Zalaka and HBP Guam's Ernie Santos will open the mixed martial arts action tomorrow as they collide in a 125-lb bout. Also dueling in a 125-lb catch weight are Trench Tech's Seongho Chung and D2S' Jay "Bonbon" Camacho.

Another Trench Tech's bet Walt "The Silent Assault" Florencio will be featured in ROP 16, as he challenges GMT/UX Jarome Cruz of Guam at 145 lbs, while the other 145-lb bout will have Tinian's Haini "The Protigy" Hofschneider debuting against GMT/UX's Rob Eclavea.

Other MMA fights slated tomorrow are Jones Langu vs. Lenny "The Machine Gun" Sablan at 135 lbs; Mitchel Torre vs. Eric Sian at 185-195 lbs; Mikey Sanchez vs. K.J. "Man Down" Villagomez at 135 lbs; Scotty "Da Slaya" Eclavea vs. Josh "Oh My Gosh" Cruz at 135 lbs; Ryan "The Predator" Toves vs. Jun Taitingfong at 160 lbs; Rocky "Rockstar" Quichocho vs. Slade "The Rage" Adelbai at 220 lbs; and Jose "Young Blood" Ramirez vs. Ning "The Slicer" Cepeda at 155 lbs.

Before the MMA bouts, Trench Tech's season-opening offering will have three kickboxing match. The first one with have U.M.A. Gym/Team Ultimate Guam's Ethan "Typhoon" Reyes battling D2S' Jonathan "Britt" Camacho at 125 lbs, while Jasper "The Disaster" Van Der Maas will face Primo Po in the second K1 tiff. Guam Muay Thai's Albert "Butu" Andrea and KYA's John Tudela will cap the kickboxing action of the night as the square off in a 160-lb bout.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Toronto	45	32	.584	–
x-Brooklyn	43	34	.558	2
New York	33	45	.423	12½
Boston	23	54	.299	22
Philadelphia	17	60	.221	28

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Miami	53	24	.688	–
x-Washington	40	37	.519	13
x-Charlotte	39	38	.506	14
Atlanta	34	43	.442	19
Orlando	22	55	.286	31

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Indiana	53	25	.679	–
x-Chicago	45	32	.584	7½
Cleveland	31	47	.397	22
Detroit	29	49	.372	24
Milwaukee	14	63	.182	38½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-San Antonio	60	18	.769	–
x-Houston	52	25	.675	7½
Dallas	48	31	.608	12½
Memphis	45	32	.584	14½
New Orleans	32	45	.416	27½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Oklahoma City	56	21	.727	–
x-Portland	50	28	.641	6½
Minnesota	39	38	.506	17
Denver	33	44	.429	23
Utah	24	54	.308	32½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-L.A. Clippers	55	23	.705	–
Golden State	48	29	.623	6½
Phoenix	46	31	.597	8½
Sacramento	27	51	.346	28
L.A. Lakers	25	53	.321	30

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	5	4	.556	–
New York	4	4	.500	½
Toronto	4	4	.500	½
Baltimore	3	5	.375	1½
Boston	3	5	.375	1½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	4	2	.667	–
Cleveland	4	3	.571	½
Chicago	4	4	.500	1
Kansas City	3	4	.429	1½
Minnesota	3	4	.429	1½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	5	2	.714	–
Oakland	4	3	.571	1
Texas	4	4	.500	1½
Houston	3	5	.375	2½
Los Angeles	3	5	.375	2½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	5	2	.714	–
Miami	5	3	.625	½
Atlanta	4	3	.571	1
New York	3	4	.429	2
Philadelphia	3	4	.429	2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	5	2	.714	–
Pittsburgh	5	2	.714	–
St. Louis	5	3	.625	½
Chicago	2	5	.286	3
Cincinnati	2	6	.250	3½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	6	2	.750	–
Los Angeles	6	3	.667	½
Colorado	4	5	.444	2½
San Diego	2	5	.286	3½
Arizona	2	8	.200	5

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bike and Run Legs of XTERRA Saipan

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Three bikers head to the bike trail in Navy Hill during last Saturday's 2014 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

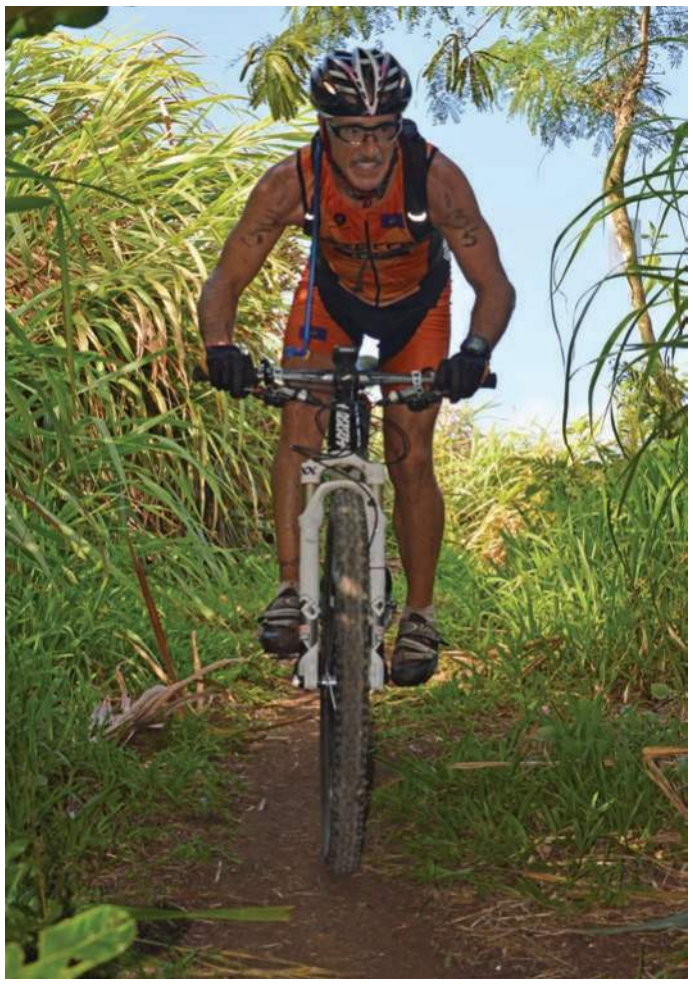
Samson Tan leads Jacqui Slack and Erico Castro on an uphill road in Navy Hill.

Canada's Charles Fortier takes his time biking out of Banana Rama Road.

Ricky Castro smiles after completing the race.

Swiss pro Renata Bucher waves to the crowd as she runs along the shore of Micro Beach.

Russia's Aleksandr Dorovskikh grimaces as he fights the heat while doing the run leg of the race.



Guam's Richard Leone enters the Lamar Trail.

Aldrin Sta. Ana pours water on Nap Dizon's head.

Spectators cheer on a biker at Capital Hill.

Germany's Roman Huber negotiates the uphill and rocky road to Mt. Tapochao.

UConn routs Notre Dame 79-58, wins 9th title

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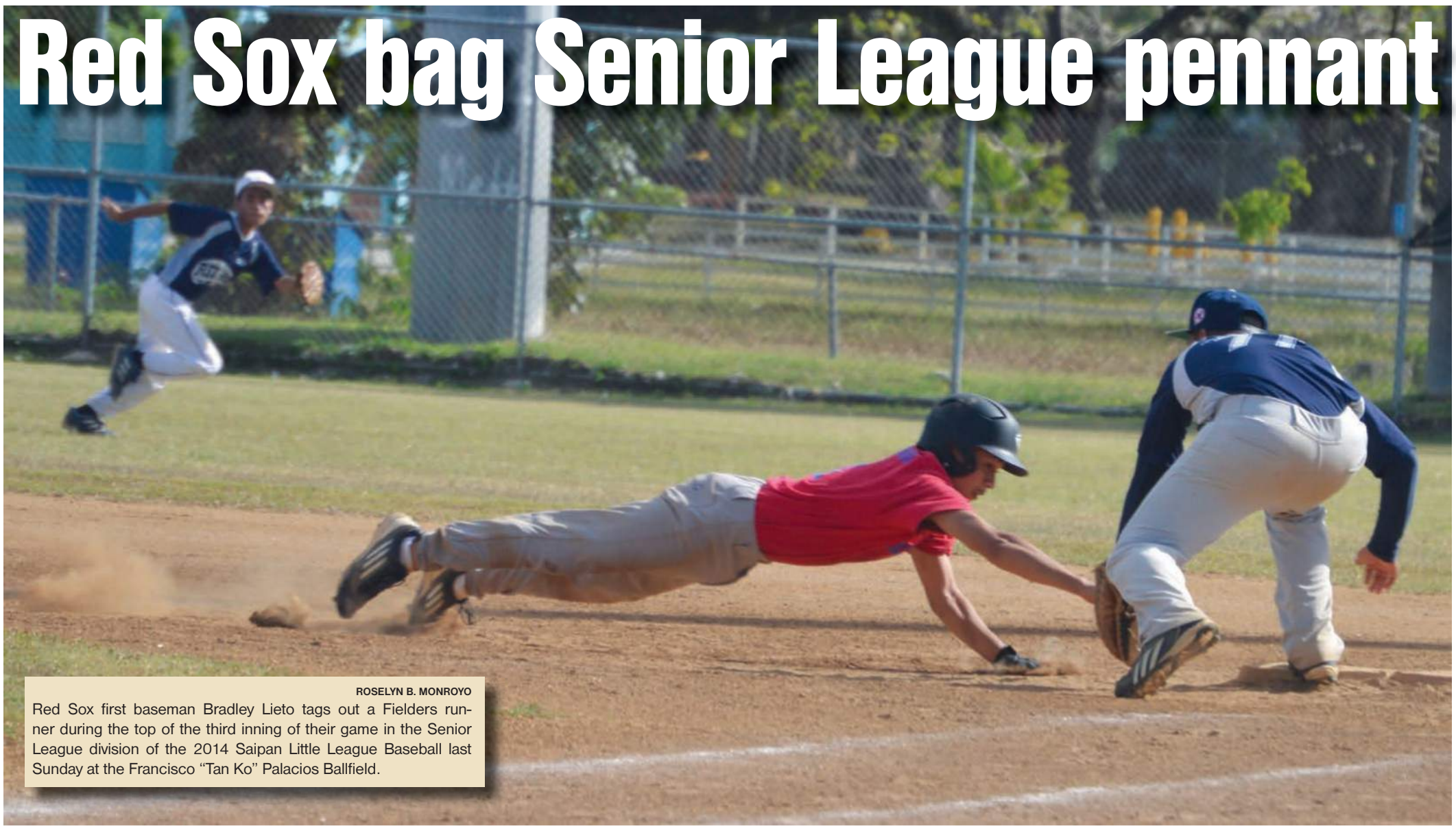
Saipan Tribune
Sports

Braun hits 3 homers, Brewers beat Phillies, 10-4

PAGE 25

Red Sox bag Senior League pennant



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Red Sox first baseman Bradley Lieto tags out a Fielders runner during the top of the third inning of their game in the Senior League division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Red Sox swept their last two games in the regular season to win the pennant in the Senior League division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball.

The Red Sox first topped the Braves, 6-1, last Saturday and then downed the Fielders, 9-4, last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield to finish the double-round robin competition with a 9-3 record. Actually the Red Sox tied the Braves for the No. 1 spot, but the former prevailed in the standoff with their better runs ratio. The Red Sox and the Braves remained tied when organizers went to the teams' head-to-head record thus the run ratio tie-breaker was implemented. The

See RED on Page 26

13 complete XTERRA Saipan Sport

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ben Babauta enters the bike trail in Navy Hill during last Saturday's 2014 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Thirteen survived the sport course in the 2014 XTERRA Saipan Championship with young triathlete Jerome Diyco leading the finishers in last Saturday's race.

Diyco timed in at 2:07:35 in the 750-meter swim, 24K bike, and 5K run race and was one of the seven participants to complete the race in under three hours. The 15-year-old finished the one-lap swim race in the waters off Micro Beach in 15:59, behind only six other swimmers in the sport course, but was the fastest in the bike leg (1:26:39) to take

See 13 on Page 26

'The Clinch' aims to keep clean slate

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Vince "The Clinch" Masga, right, is seen here during his title bout against Guam's Josh "The Hedgedog" Alvarez during the Rites of Passage 14: Mayhem in April last year at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Trench Tech's Vince "The Clinch" Masga will be putting both his bantamweight title and perfect record on the line when he takes on Spike 22 and Countershot Guam's Rick "2Slick" Camp tomorrow in the main event in Rites of Passage 16: Unleashed at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Masga holds a 5-0 mark and took the bantamweight crown from Guam's Josh "The Hedgedog" Alvarez during the ROP 14: Mayhem in April last year. Masga dethroned Alvarez after winning

See THE CLINCH on Page 26